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of British

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the move

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# Police may face Bridgewater trial

# Cheers in court for freedom after 18 lost years

By RICHARD FORD AND STEPHEN FARRELL

TWO former police officers may face criminal charges after three men jailed for murdering Carl Bridgewater were ireed yesterday amid allegations of "serious, substantial and widespread police

forged a confession which was instrumental in bringing the men to trial and sending them to prison for 18 years, and yesterday the Crown accepted that newly discovered scientific evidence left the prosecution case "fundamentally flawed."

Tumultuous applause and cheering greeted Vincent Hickey, his cousin Michael and James Robinson as they appeared in the dock at the Court of Appeal. They were released on unconditional bail pending a full hearing in April, when their convictions will almost certainly be quashed. Patrick Molloy, who was convicted with them, died in prison in 1981 still protest-

After the hearing, as the Prime Minister said that he expected an inquiry into the original convictions and withthe men denounced the crimi-

nal justice system. Vincent Hickey, still wearing prison clothes, told a press conference: "Not only have the police been devious and deceitful by keeping innocent-men in prison, far worse, after having a child killed, they have deceived Mr and Mrs

Bridgewater." The men's freedom hinged on the discovery this month of scientific evidence proving for the first time the existence of the bogus confession statement, purportedly made by Vincent Hickey but apparently concocted by the police, which Molloy had claimed was used to trick him into

admitting the crime. Without Molloy's confession, the Crown would have had no case, Lord Justice Roth said

Later, Robinson renewed the attack on the West Mid-lands police. "It was not a case of one rotten apple in the barrel, they were all rotten. You had to be rotten to get into the barrel. It wasn't about over-zealous policemen thinking they had the right guys, it was a concerted conspiracy."

One of the three officers named in court, Graham Leeke, now works as a security guard. He refused to comment on the Court of Appeal hearing at which the police operation was was branded "dishonest and deceitful". Another of the officers allegedly involved, Detective Constable John Perkins, died two years ago. Michael Mansfield, QC, for

Molloy, said: "It is only a small part of serious substantial and widespread police malpractice involving a num-ber of very high-ranking officers down to the lowest, who must have been involved in

He said that the particular ground of Molloy's confession meant that the convictions were unsafe. Lord Justice Roch said that he had no reason to believe the convictions would not be quashed.

After the hearing, Vincent Hickey yesterday paid tribute to his own and Michael Hickey's mothers for the way they campaigned for their release. Robinson said that Anne Skeet and Ann Whelan should be rewarded in the New Year's Honours list. The problem for the West Midlands police force was that they happened to fit up Ann Whelan's son." he said. They got a tiger by the tail. Vincent Hickey add-



Freedom at last: Ann Whelan (left) hugs her son Michael Hickey outside the High Court. Beside them are Anne Skeet with her son Vincent Hickey and Jimmy Robinson

Robinson said that only Mrs Whelan had kept up their spirits: "That woman there is solicitor have told people who didn't want to know. They were long lonely years, we have cried with despair and people have looked at us with contempt in their eyes for killing a kid. I am not bitter but I am angry it has taken so long. This is not new evidence, it is stuff that has been there

from day one." Nick Molloy, the son of Patrick Molloy, said: I feel very sad. It's great to see these men today. I salute the heroes - these men. They have courage, true courage. Look at

prising it was that somebody

who is Jewish should quote

the leading German Protes-

Lithuania in 1899.

Mr Rifkind's family left

Although the use of the

expression "the Jew" is not as

arring in German as in Eng-

ish, nonetheless it has a

strange ring, especially for older readers. Nazi newspa-

pers in the 1930s prefaced

almost any description of lead-

ing liberal politicians with

the Jew" even if the person

had long ago abandoned his

Mr Rilkind, even when quot-ing Martin Luther, was speak-

ing as British Foreign Sec-

retary and not as a Jew.

Catholic or Buddhist," said a

senior British official who

attended the lecture. The real

question is why the news-

paper) allowed such a phrase

At least two of the newspa-

per's board of publishers are

regarded as tough conserva-

tives who can on occasion be

deeply critical of British poli-

tics and the British media. A

year ago the newspaper pub-

to stay in their columns."

The point of course is that

ed: "We are fortunate. Me and Mike have got the best mums Bentley who has just died. If the hangem-all brigade had had their way, we wouldn't be here today.

Mrs Whelan was glad that the battle was over, but she remained angry that the men had suffered years of mental and physical abuse. "I was very much on my own for years," she said. "But I just fought and fought and fought. The worst time was when people refused to listen. The authorities knew they were innocent, but they didn't want to hear. There is still a lot of fighting to be done, but Michael now needs time to think."

> Ordeal of freedom, page 6 Detective silent, page 7 Leading article, page 23

# Key evidence was hidden for years

By RICHARD FORD and Stephen Farrell

THE crucial evidence that led to the release of the Bridgewater Three lay undiscovered in their files for seven years until their solicitor found it two

weeks ago.

A confession statement by Patrick Molloy taken in Wombourne police station in December 1978 was subjected Electrostatic Document Analysis (Esda) by the forensic scientists Robert Radley and Dr Anthony Hardcastle in 1990. But they found no sign that the statement had been

tampered with Esda can

show if documents have been tampered with or reveal impressions left from earlier sheets of paper - technology not available when the men were sentenced - but the only imprints the scientists found were consistent with those that one would expect to find on a document taken from a stack

of witness statments. They found impressions of a familiar caption which one finds at the beginning of every statement under caution. There was nothing in the least surprising about finding that there, Jeremy Roberts, QC, for the Crown, said yesterday. Most of the imprints had

disappeared with handling over the years, but a few words were protected by the exhibit label on the front page. They showed that the statement whose imprint appeared on the document had been in

and carried his signature. Molloy, whose confession was crucial to the conviction of all the men, has always insisted that he was tricked into his

the name of Vincent Hickey

admission when the police showed him a confession al-

legedly made by Hickey. What Radley and Hard-castle did not know was that Hickey was interviewed in Redditch police station, 25 miles away from Molloy, and any statement he made could not have been written on the same pad as Molloy's.

The importance of the Continued on page 7, col 8

strike

### Anger as German paper refers to 'the Jew Rifkind'

By ROGER BOYES IN BERLIN AND PHILIP WEBSTER trying to underline how sur-

GERMAN newspaper which is closely aligned to Helmut Kohl, yesterday stood by its description of the Foreign Secretary as "the Jew Rifkind" and the writer of the article expressed amazement that the words could have been interpreted as a slur. As a storm of protest greeted

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeit-aug, its author defended her shoice of words. 'Is it an insult

The Times on the Internet him://www.the-times.co.uk



COURT & SOCIAL.

in English to call somebody a Jew?" Michaela Wiegel, the newspaper's 28-year-old specialist on European affairs, asked. "I am mortified that anyone could have read it like

The Prime Minister was urged to lodge a complaint after MPs from all parties branded the description of Malcolm Rifkind by the paper as an insult to him and to the

The offending words came at the end of an even-handed account of Mr Rifkind's speech to the Konrad Adenau-er Institute in Bonn: "As if he was not completely convinced by his own words, the Jew Rilland concluded - ironically, apologetically - with a quote from Luther, delivered in German, 'Here I stand, I

cannot do otherwise." Mr Rifkind's Foreign Office speechwriters used the words to underline the force of the Foreign Secretary's convictions. But the newspaper read the quotation differently: as a coded protest against the words (urging Germany to abandon its federal European ambitions) that he had just

Ms Wiegel said. "I was only

Continued on page 2, col 5 LETTERS 23 OBITUARIES 25 SIMON JENKINS ......22



#### Times man wins top BBC award

Sam Kiley, Africa corres-pondent of The Times, was named Foreign Correspondent of the Year yesterday at the BBC's What the Paper's Say Awards. Mr Kiley. 32, who joined The Times as a trainee in 1987, was commended for his reports from Rwanda. The judges praised "the chastening clarity of his reports from one of the

#### Smuggler jailed

The pregnant daughter of a prominent businessman was jailed for 11 years yesterday for trying to smuggle cocaine worth £400,000 into Britain. Sara Westwood, 23, wept as Judge Oppenheimer told her she had taken part in a "disgusting and terrible" .... Page 3

#### Surrey go into bat under floodlights By SIMON WILDE ONE-DAY cricket is about to

undergo a revolution in Eng-land if, as expected, proposals by Surrey are approved by the English Cricket Board. Surrey, the third oldest

county dub in the country, whose patron is The Queen and whose most noted supporter is the Prime Minister, want to change their name to the Surrey Lions, play pop music between overs and stage a match under floodlights in the Sunday 40-overs league. They expect other clubs to follow suit.

The inspiration came from David Gilbert, the club's coach, who has seen similar marketing ploys used to good effect in his native Australia. Surrey won the league title last year and saw their home attendances rise from 4,000 to nearly 10,000 and they believe that they have the team to attract larger crowds still. We have spent the winter

researching and planning means of attracting a wider audience to limited overs cricket," Paul Sheldon, Surrey's chief executive, said yesterday. "The current Surrey team, brimming with interna-tionals, is highly marketable and our new initiatives will give young supporters an easy

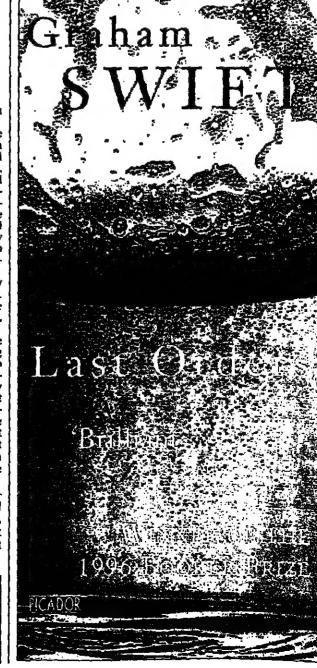
means of identifying with their heroes. For their plans to stage the

first floodlit match between first-class counties, at the Oval on Wednesday, June 26, Surrey have already received the ECB's blessing. Their op-ponents will be Nottinghamshire, who agreed to the fixture being brought forward by four days and to the county championship match, due to start that day, being postponed for 48 hours.
The game would probably

start at 5pm and finish at 10. The floodlights would be switched on when necessary, depending on the weather.

Although the prospect of the defending champions meeting last year's league runners-up should be an enticing prospect, Surrey had originally approached Yorkshire but they declined the floodlit fixture. The Nottinghamshire match clashes with the first week of Wimbledon tennis but Surrey hope to attract an attendance approaching the ground capacity of 17,000.

Alec Stewart, Surrey's captain, who is with the England touring team in New Zealand, said: "I think one-day cricket should be jazzed up. We want



BUSINESS ..... 27-30, 44, 45 **WEEKEND MONEY .. 31-43**  **GARDENING: WEEKEND4-6** PROPERTY: WEEKEND.. 7.10 TRAVEL: WEEKEND. 17-23



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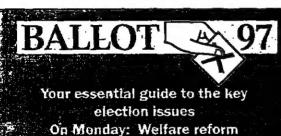


**ARSENAL v** WIMBLEDON Can Vinnie

NEW ZEALAND v ENGLAND

Reports from the second one-day international in Auckland





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# Significant shift by Labour leftwinger

Blunkett's Birmingham lecsocialist principle of redistributing wealth from the rich to the poor, will be regarded as a key landmark in the abandonment of "old" Labour.

What was so interesting about this particular speech was the explicit terms in which he rejected cash transfers as the means to reduce don Brown, the leading ideologist of new Labour, has been

Just as significant as the content is that Mr Blunkett's roots are on the Labour left. among the strongest supporters of the views that he now rejects. It was hardly surprising that his former allies on the Tribune left were the most vocal in attacking his lecture. and his most prominent defender was Frank Field, who has been outspoken in urging

Redistribution from wealthy to poor through the tax RIDDEN ON POLITICS

and benefits system has been a central Labour programme for most of this century. reflected in a series of measures extending welfare provision. But the resistance of higher taxes played a part in Labour's defeat in 1979 and voters' worries over its tax sition. Mr Blunkett acknowl-

changed dramatically so this approach would no longer work. In 1992, the British people rejected the notion that government should claw back cash in order to transfer that cash to others through pension and child benefit changes which they could not see as being directly beneficial to themselves and their families ... Cash transfers are no longer an option,

cally, in the way envisaged 50 or 100 years ago. The international money markets, the electronic transfer of funds, and the aspiration of a massively growing middle class, make the realities very different from a bygone era," he

Instead of this redistributive approach, the Shadow Education and Employment Secretary argued that "the only way of enabling people to rise out of poverty and disadvantage, is by enabling them to earn their own living.

and to have the opportunity to succeed". Hence, his emphasis on education and training, self-help and self-reliance. This is a long way from the Tory approach since it still implies an activist government. But it is not socialism as it has been defined by every Labour leader up to Tony Blair and is still advocated by many of Mr Blunkett's Shadow Cabinet colleagues.

PETER RIDDELL

Bullying

case settled

by Army

A former lieutenant who the Army by bullies yesterday won a personal apology from

the Ministry of Defence. Alisa Cook, from Winchester, whose

# Labour plans to send Blair video to new voters

By Andrew Pierce, political correspondent

been empty for more than a year. The plan, modelled on that for sending in

inspectors to take over fal-ing schools, is likely to feature in the Tory mani-festo to highlight the al-leged housing failures of

Labour-run councils. The

Prime Minister will be

speaking at a Tory local

government rally in

personal video. They are

putting him on a soapbox instead. "We think the tried

and tested methods of political

debate are much more effect-

But Labour is undaunted by

the criticism. The film, which

will be accompanied by a letter from Mr Blair ad-

· dressed to the individual tar-

cost at least £100,000. It has

ive," the official added.

Birmingham.

TONY BLAIR is taking his general election campaign dir-actly into tens of thousands of homes with a starring role in the first video general election

The video, which is under lock and key at Labour Party unsolicited to carefully targetted first-time and floating voters in 80 marginal seats. It is the first time the technique has been tried in a British election campaign and is further evidence of the increasingly sophisticated vote-seeking operation by the major political parties. Labour strategists have al-ready christened the film.

Blair the Video, in a reference to the Hugh Hudson party political broadcast of Neil and Glenys Kinnock. The broadcast, which became known as Kinnock the Movie in the 1987 general election, was such a success it was repeated during

Conservative Central Office, momentarily thrown on to the defensive by the latest innovation by the Labour campaign team, hit back. An official said last night "We welcome it. We have a different name for it. It will be a Nightmare on Blair street. The more people ex-

The Tories have no such been produced in conjunction plans to put Mr Major on a with BMP, the party's adver-

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tising agency. The party is waging the most high-tech election campaign so far hav-John Major will open up a new election front today by pledging the appointment ing created a web site on the of "hit squads" to force the Internet and satellite links. Mr sale of empty council teleconference phone-ins. A Labour strategist said: spectors would go to coun-cil housing departments which have more than 3 per cent of their housing stock vacant, and order the sale of all homes which have

"We are now developing the use of videos which can be interactive with CD-roms. The Blair video is the culmination of our efforts. We will target 80 marginal seats with the video. They are the seats where the Tory and Liberal Democrat support is soft and we think the seat is up for grabs, the video is about transmitting a positive message from Tony Blair into people's living

The strategy is also intended to improve Mr Blair's personal standing with women voters after some opinion poll research suggested that mature women thought John Major was more sincere.

☐ Chris Smith, the Shadow Health Secretary, announced a six-point plan to improve patient care and increase rewards for nurses to reduce the numbers leavuing the health service. He planned to introduce more flexible working hours, long-term job security and better-pay in return for posed to end local pay bar-gaining and extend the opportunities to prescribe

drugs.

An election roadshow intended to focus politicians attention on the voting power of Britain's ten million old age pensioners was launched outside the House of Commons. Age Concern's campaign message is "Age counts. Ten million older voters could make the difference."



The late Veronica Guerin's son with Russell Davies

### Guerin is named journalist of year

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

VERONICA GUERIN, crime correspondent for the Irish Sunday Independent, who was killed last June, was named Journalist of the Year yesterday. The What the Papers Say award was collected by her son, Cathal, aged seven, and her husband Graham Turley.

delivered with extraordinary composure, Cathal said: "I am very honoured to accept this wonderful award on behalf of my wonderful mum ... this award I will cherish for ever. Thank you very much in-deed." Russell Davies introduced the awards.

The awards were presented by Tony Blair at the Savoy Hotel in London. The Guardian won the Newspaper of the Year award. The judges com-

tions such as those into the relationship between the Tory MP Neil Hamilton and the lobbyist Ian Greer. The Scoop of the Year Award went to Peter Hounam, a freelance reporter who obtained leaked details of the 1996 Budget. Francis Wheen, of The

unnist of the Year, Poly Toynbee, of The Independent won the Commentator of the Year award: Brian Viner, television critic at the Mail on Sunday, won the Peter Black Award for Broadcasting Writer of the Year. The Gerald Barry Award for a career's achievement went to Sir John Junor, who edited the Sunday Express for 32 years.

Award for Times man, page !

#### claim centred on a year with the 39 field regiment based in Paderborn, also won an outof-court settlement, believed to be several thousand pounds, three days before she was due to be the first woman officer to sue the Army for sexual discrimination at an industrial tribunal. She said she was locked in a shower room while

CS gas pellets were set off. The Army has not admitted liability for discrimination or

Bug toll rises

A fourth person who ate traditional haggis at a Burns Supper at Roberton village hall near Hawick in the Scottish Borders on February 7 has been confirmed as suffering from the lethal E. coli 0157 bacterium. The latest viction takes the total number of confirmed cases in the area to

#### Link ruled out

Police seeking the killer of Billie-Jo Jenkins have discounted the possibility that one of the suspects is the man wanted for the murder of Lin Russell and her daughter Megan in Kent. A man, 36, was released on police bail yesterday after being ques-tioned about the murder of Billie-Jo. 13, in Hastings.

#### Pupil stabbed

A 15-year-old boy is critically ill after being stabbed in the corridor of his school by another pupil. Darren Hop-per, a pupil at Heathfield High School in Congleton, Cheshire was attacked during break time. Cheshire Police said that a 14-year-old pupil had been detained and was awaiting interview.

#### Yorks' ski trip

The Duke and Duchess of York, who were divorced last year, are spending the weekend together at the Swiss ski resort of Verbier with their children Beatrice, eight, and Eugenie, aged six. The Duch-ess has been staying at a friend's chalet on a half-term break, and her ex-husband flew there last night.

#### SOUTH ECT ON

announced on Thursday (report, yesterday), which will increase the size of the Parachute Regiment but reduce overall manning by 600, will save, not cost, up to £15 million

#### Hard-up Lib Dems hope that voters will follow the van

BY POLLY NEWTON, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Liberal Democrats are too poor to pay for a national advertising campaign before election day. They have spent half of their £25 million fighting fund already and will be able to afford only very limited advertising in regional media covering their target seats. Their financial plight was

underlined yesterday when Paddy Ashdown unveiled a new Liberal Democrat campaign poster in London. It was pasted to a billboard-carrying van that was hired for £2,000 and had to be back at the rental company's Oxfordshire

headquarters by last night. The party spent another £2,000 on producing two copies of the poster - one for each side of the van - although the design work was done for nothing by a "creative team" of Liberal Democrat supporters. After a photocall at 10.30am, the van was driven back to Oxfordshire via some target seats in London in the hope that the poster would be spotted by potential Liberal Democrat voters.

Lord Holme of Cheltenham, the Liberal Democrats' elecadmitted: "For those who know Macbeth, it is the Birnam Wood approach." The Tories have spent an estimated £5 million on their latest poster campaign alone.

The Liberal Democrats estimate that by polling day they will have spent a total of Es million on nationally coordinated campaigning in the past five years. They cannot afford to rent any billboard sites, nor will they be sending leaflets or newsletters through the post to voters in target seats. They will rely on activ-ists pounding the pavements.

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Frankfurter Allgemeine 'Jew Rifkind' anger

Continued from page I lished a long front-page commentary criticising The Times and The Guardian for blaming an arson attack on a foreigners' hostel on neo-Na-

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6.54%

5.36%

zis. Other commentaries have sharply attacked British policy in the Balkans and the Major Government's record on Eu-

Rahama für deue "Moderne Vinten". Als habe ihn state Rada tilek gapt überzungt, schieß der beie Rahand – grossech spologi-lich – unt den dersteh harvongebenchten Lutherwert, "Hier nicht ich, ich bass geda

The offending words

rope. The Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, however, has no record of anti-Semitism: indeed, not even the very far-right fringe press dares to criticise Jews. But it seems clear that the sensitivity of German journalistic language is changing. This is particularly apparent in sports coverage where chauvioistic phrasing. regarded as taboo only a

couple of years ago, increas-ingly slips into radio and television reports of international matches.

Although ministers declined to become embroiled, senior MPs were furious. Gerald Kaufman, the former Shadow Foreign Secretary, said: "It is disgusting. I was absolutely appalled when I saw it. Words fail me. I cannot express my irritation strongly enough. The Prime Minister should do something about it.

"A member of the British Government has been attacked in a German newspaper and I find that

MP and a member of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, said: The Germans ought to apologise without being asked. It stirs up our worst forebodings about closer political union with Germany. I expect John Maior will demand an apology."

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# Businessman's daughter weeps as judge condemns 'disgusting, terrible' crime

# Pregnant drug smuggler sentenced to 11 years

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

THE pregnant daughter of a prominent businessman was jailed for 11 years yesterday for trying to smuggle cocaine worth £400,000 into Britain. Sara Westwood, 23, whose

father is Roger Westwood, the managing director of financial company Hogg Robinson, wept as Judge Oppenheimer told her she had taken part in a "disgusting and terrible" trade that led to destruction and death. Her parents and two sisters, who attended every day of her two-and-a-halfweek trial, sat in shock as she Was sentenced

Westwood was caught as she brought more than two kilograms of cocaine hidden in the false bottom of her suitcase through the green channel at Heathrow aurport last April. She was part of a "large and glers, which included three accomplices who were sentenced alongside her yesterday at Isleworth Crown Court. The court was told

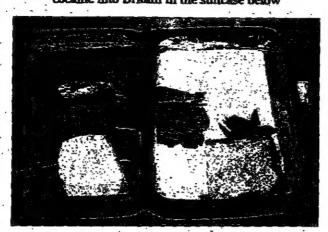
Westwood had accepted a free holiday to Trinidad last year and had stayed at a Holiday Inn in the capital, Port of Spain. On April & police at Tobago airport watched as she checked in a suitcase. Some distance behind her, Anthony Walker, an accomplice, was carrying a similar case. The two ignored each other but

were later seen talking.

They were shadowed by.
Lanceford Wallace and Cedric Edwards, both from Lewisham, southeast London, who acted as minders to see the bags safely into Britain. Westwood and Walker tried to disguise their route to Britain by travelling from Trinidad via Frankfurt but police had already been alerted and sniffdiscovered the 4.6 kg of co-



Roger Westwood and his wife Susan attended every day of their daughter's trial. She smuggled



Westwood's and Walker's

The group were followed to Heathrow airport, where Customs officers arrested them. Giving evidence, Westwood told the court that she had had no idea that there were drugs in the suitcase, which was

court was told, she had written postcard to her best friend talking of "Geezers, gear, gorgeous gais and hig ones".

Westwood was convicted last month after pleading not guilty. Yesterday in mitigation her counsel, Bernard Phelvin, said that she was a gullible and foolish girl who was easily

ic child, finding it difficult to way that teenagers and children do. Compromising her values was a way to achieve what popularity she could among her friends because of her background."
He said she had "dropped

out" at a fairly early age and had also suffered violent abuse from her boyfriend: "Throughout this, those who are near to her have been and will be deeply affected by these

stayed by her throughout. If it is possible at all not wholly to crush her spirit and destroy her personality, that is the course the court should take."

Judge Oppenheimer said he had taken into account her time she was lured into the smuggling trade. "In particu-lar, I have considered your personal history, your back-ground, the abusive relationships that you had had before this offence was committed and the depression that you suffered," he said.

Nonetheless, he said, she was a "knowing" courier. He sentenced Tony Walker, 31. who pleaded guilty, to seven years in prison. Lanceford Wallace 25, and Cedric Edwards, 34, were jailed for 12 years and II years respec-

Westwood's mother Susan wept as her daughter was led away. The Westwoods have always maintained their daughter's innocence and say she was unknowingly lured into smuggling.

Westwood was educated at St Joseph's Convent School for Girls in Reading, Berkshire, which pledges to help girls grow to maturity as Chris-GCSEs but left aged 16.



Ex-convent girl Sara Westwood: claimed she was duped into carrying drugs

late teens, her father gave his blessing and threw a huge white wedding for her. She started training to become a nurse but gave it up when she became pregnant with her son Rees in 1994. Shortly afterwards her marriage collapsed

in a £70-a-week bedsit in Reading. Soon she was mixing with the crowd that was to lead to her downfall.

Her parents are now looking after their grandson at the family home in Sulham, Berkshire. After the verdict was Westwood told journalists he

innocent dupe of others. He said: "Sometimes naive, silly, headstrong and feckless, yes: but her main problem is that she has always been too trusting of the wrong type of people.Personally I have no doubt that she was taken

advantage of." He and his

French girls vanish on day trip to London

By Lin Jenkins

THE distraught families of two French girls were helping to search West End streets in London yesterday in the hope who went missing during a day trip from their home

The girl's visit on Wednesday was their first trip away from Grenay, near Lille. Police are worried that they may have been held against their will, but hope that the reason may prove less sinister The attractions of the capital may have prompted them to miss the coach home. An incident room has been set up in Earls Court Road.

Laetitia Ranson and Anjel ique Wozniak speak only a smattering of English. They had £10 each and no change of clothes when they failed to catch the coach home from Hanover Square. They were last seen about 4pm, windowshopping in Oxford Circus.

Marie-Christine Wozniak, 39, her husband Noel, 44, and their neighbours Jeanine, 43, and Jacky Ranson, 48, came to London on Thursday night. Mr Wozniak said: "We can't stop thinking about them. We wish to get out and walk the streets just to find our

A police spokesman said: We are very concerned about them. They have never gone missing before and to deliberately run off would be out of character. We hope they just wanted to carry on with their adventure, but they may have been picked up by some of the unscrupulous people who watch for stray youngsters."

The girls are not thought to have fallen out with their families, nor did they have English boyfriends or penfriends that they might have tried to visit. Both girls are white, about 5ft 2ins and fairly heavily built. Laetitia has shoulder-length black hair,

# Nigerians free Briton held for eight weeks

A BRITISH accountant imprisoned for eight weeks in Nigeria without charge was expected home today after intense diplomatic pressure ended his ordeal.

Bruce Henderson, 42, was released wearing the same clothes he wore when he was arrested by Nigerian military cion of spying as he attempted to cross the border from Cameroon. He was expected to fly out of Lagos last night to be re-united with his wife and three children in Aberdeenshire.

The British High Commission in Lagos reported that he seemed to be in good health. He told officials that he had been treated well during his

Last night Mr Henderson told the BBC: I am delighted to be free and I am grateful to those who helped to sustain me during this difficult time and those who have worked

Hopes had risen last Friday

were dashed. From the time of his arrest he was refused

access to consular officials. Mr Henderson's wife Carol. 38, speaking from the family home in Chapel of Garioch, near Inverurie, said: "I'm so happy. I can't believe it - it has come from nowhere. After all the disappointment of the last week, it's wonderful." Mrs Henderson was told by

the Foreign Office at Ilam yesterday that her husband was free and she was able to speak to him for the first time in almost two months, by telephone to the High Commission in Lagos. "He said he was well. He is very confused, but is looking forward to coming home. He was really surprised when I told him about how much the case had been in the news. He had no idea about the publicity," she said.

"We built up our hopes so much last week and then had such a huge let-down. I really

happen so soon. She immediately broke the that he would be freed, but good news to the couple's

Museum is being very help-

ful. I am hoping that every-

thing will go well, thanks to

the pressure of opinion

against the sale. My father's

equipment belongs to Eng-

land, and that is where it

The Science Museum and

GEC issued a statement after

the first meeting, saying that they believed that a hasis ex-

isted for a solution which

will ensure that the Marconi

Collection remains intact and

in this country." Another

statement was promised once

further progress had been

should stay."

children, Moira, 12, Craig, ten and Lindsay, seven.

Mr Henderson had been working in Cameroon since controller at Korup National Park. He was employed as an accountant by Hunting Technical Services, of Hernel Hempstead. When he was arrested, he was crossing the border into Nigeria to visit friends in Port Harcourt.

Speaking by telephone yes-terday to his employer, Tom Boyd, a director at Hunting Technical Services, Mr Henderson said that he had been travelling with a Nigerian businessman by boat through the Bakassi peninsula, when he and his companion were arrested. "The military police thought he might be a security risk to Nigeria having travelled through an area disputed by the two countries." Mr Boyd said.

John Wattam, at the British High Commission in Lagos, said Mr Henderson had seen doctor and had been debriefed by officials.

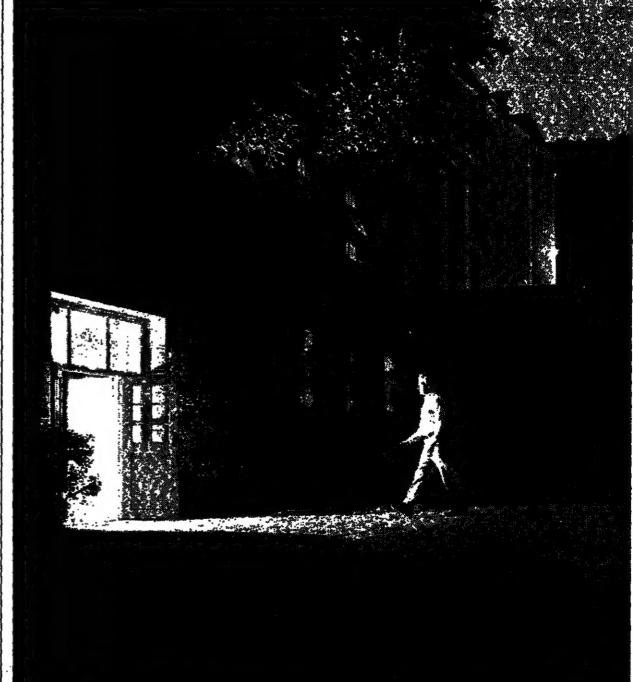
#### BT told to put call girls back on line

BT WAS ordered yesterday to of prostitutes who leave cards in phone kiosks advertising their services. The telecom munications company had phone providers and Westminster City Council, central London, last August to block calls to numbers listed on the

The action was aimed at preventing prostitutes plastering booths with the cards, which often included explicit details. But the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) ruled that the agreement between the telephone providers breached competition laws because it had not been registered in

David Greene, solicitor for the London Committee of Call Girls, said: "BT appears willing to do as it pleases in relation to customers and their

A BT spokesman described the ruling as a blip and said that the company would resume disconnections soon after registering its policy with the OFT.



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Demand for Jack Daniel's has risen of late, especially from new friends around the world. Of course, we can't make our whiskey any faster-the slow way we insist upon is the reason you like it so much. But we are willing to work longer, like head distiller Jimmy Bedford here. So if you've heard rumors of our growing popularity, don't worry. Our Mr. Bedford may get less sleep...but you'll get your Jack Daniel's.

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JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY

# Protest led by inventor's daughter halts £1m sale of Marconi archive

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

PLANS to auction the Maroni collection of historic documents and artefacts from the early days of radio have been shelved after protests led by Marconi's daughter, Princess Elettra

GEC-Marconi has recousidered its decision to sell the collection at Christie's next month and the anction house has suspended printing of the catalogue. The company chose to sell the collection after deciding that building a museum to store and display it would cost far more than it was worth. The sale was

expected to raise £1 million. Opposition to the sale mickly grew in a flurry of letters to The Times. The principal criticism was that an auction would disperse the collection and make it inaccessible to scholars and

the public. An alternative to dispersal involving the Science Museum and perhaps other muse-ums is now being discussed, with those close to the negoti-ations confident that a sol-



Princess Elettra: campaigning in Britain

achieved, "when the company would expect to be in a posibon from public sale". That is not expected for a week or

Any solution short of selling the collection is likely to involve the injection of money from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Christie's, which has already spent time

Guglielmo Marconi came to Britain as a young man in 1896, after carrying out successful radio experiments in his parents home in Italy. He was supported by the Post Of-fice and within a few years had demonstrated long-range transmission of radio

The collection owned by GEC-Marconi has been stored at Chehnsford for many years. Documents include "Marconigrams" sent by the doomed liner Titanie as it sank in the north Atlantic after hitting an iceberg in 1912. The final message read: "Sinking. We are small boats. Weather clear."

The invention of radio is a confusing subject. Several scientists demonstrated the transmission of radio waves, but none was able to commercialise the invention until Marconi arrived from

Bologna. His success was rapid, with the first radio signals being sent across the English Channel in 1898, and across the Atlantic in 1901. He won the Nobel Prize for

# Catwalk kittens take controversy in their stride



Uniform appearance Eva Arnold, left, and Charlene O'Haire dressed in their school clothes

AND GRACE BRADBERRY

SCHOOLGIRLS who will star in Vivienne Westwood's fashion show tomorrow - one of them as young as 13 - are not letting

controversy wear them down. While Lady Olga Maitland, the MP and a sponsor of the Conservative Family Campaign, said that 20 girls aged 13 to 17 acting as models was "frankly not right", 15year-old Eva Arnold maintained there was no cause for alarm.

While some of Ms Westwood's designs were, Eva agreed, "quite raunchy", the clothes in which she would appear for the start of London Fashion Week were not. Ms Westwood, who is known for provocative designs, including rubber skirts and fake-fur Gstrings, will feature the girls in a mock debutantes' ball at the

The girls were recruited from model agencies and two drama schools, the Sylvia Young Theatre School and The Arts Educational School, London

Charlotte, the 13-year-old, is a professional model chosen from the books of Spirit Model Agency, which also represents Jodie Kidd, whose extremely thin appearance

caused comment two years ago. Jonathan Phang, who manages Charlotte and Jodie Kidd, said: "The reason I'm letting her do this show is because all the girls who young models is perfectly all are doing it are young.

Eva's fellow pupils from The Arts Educational School, Sarah Watkins, 17, and Charlene O'Haire, 16, said there was no need for controversy. Eva's mother Lynn said that she was delighted Eva was in the show, although she admitted that she had had

some worries. "It's a concern when your daughter is quite young," Mrs Arnold said. "My main concern is that it focuses on image more than spirit and soul. Young people are under a terrible pressure when it comes to image. But I trust Eva. I think she's sensible."

Westwood's show comes after complaints that the fashion industry exploits schoolgirls, Lady Olga, MP for Sutton and Cheam, said: "I totally disapprove of young girls being used for this kind of show. To abuse teenagers because they look innocent is frankly not right. There are perfeetly suitable adult models, so there is just no need for this. I think it's quite awful."

Wayne Hemingway, the chair-man and founder of the fashion company Red Or Dead, which is also showing at the fashion week, said: "It's a question of where you draw the line. I think the collec-tion that Vivienne is showing is

right. The only time there would be a problem is if young girls were wearing clothes that were sexy or exposing flesh or midriff."

Leila Cerulio, a spokeswoman for the Ms Westwood, said: "We're not putting the girls into the show to cause a sensation. We want to prove a point that a young girl can look chic and sophisticated. Young people love to dress like rebels, but they all wind up dressing like each other. These days, looking prim is rebellious.

Miss Cerullo said the girls would wear "lovely tailored suits". However, Westwood's manag-ing director, the Italian businessman Carlo D'Amario, said: "The collection is very sexy. What else do you expect of Vivienne?"

For the audition, the girls of The Arts Educational School were asked to wear dance leotards and hall. Brenda Gray, the school's registrar, said the show's organisers wanted girls between the ages of 14 and 18. They wanted tall, slim, typical English rose types. As long as the clothing is suitable, it will be a good experience for them."

Vivienne Westwood made her name in the 1970s, when she and her partner Malcolm McLaren opened a boutique.



Role models: Eva and Charlene sampling Vivienne Westwood outfits at Liberty's in central London

# Water experts demand a ban on new homes

BY NICK NUTTALL ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

WATER resources are so stretched that no more houses should be built in part of the South and East of Britain, experts in the industry said yesterday. Ray Tennant, chairman of

the Water Companies Association, insisted the projected need for 4.4 million new households by 2016 could prove a disaster in areas such as Hampshire, east and west.

Sussex, Kent and East Anglia. "Certainly in areas like East and West Sussex we will find it difficult to supply new townshins. There are no major rivers and most water comes from boreholes in the South Downs which are being fully ciation will be objecting to future schemes and were already holding urgent talks with county planning chiefs across southern England.

Mr Temant, who is a director of Mid Southern and South East Water, said projects were already in the pipeline which were causing larm. "There are proposals for a township of 10,000 properties between Lewis and Eastbourne. In north Hampshire there are plans for a new town," he said

Every new home needs one, two, maybe three toilets, a new garden and a new car that needs washing."

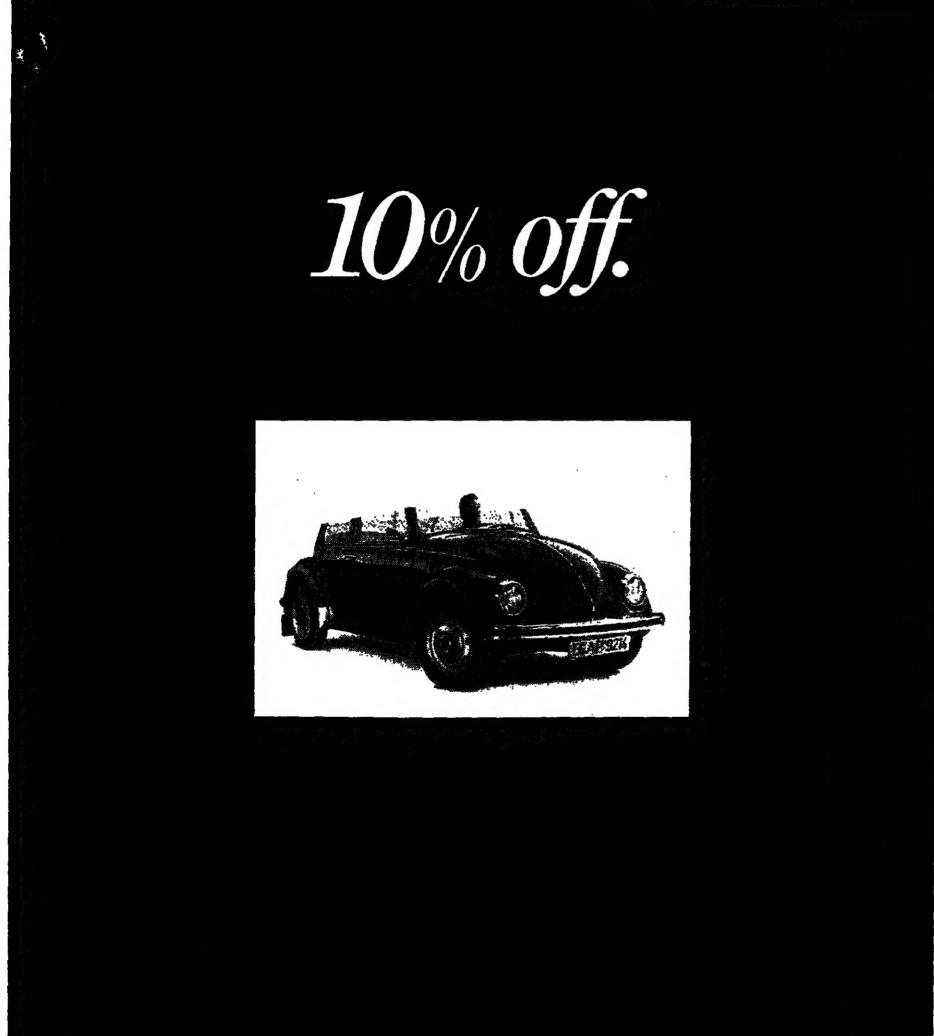
The fears over the Government's new household projections come in advance of a meeting on Monday, organised by the WCA, which represents the smaller water supply firms. The meeting is aimed at solving Britain's water problems into the next

"We cannot run businesses the way we are at the moment, constantly on the edge of a -crisis," said Mr Tennant. The meeting has secured the back-ing of the Environment Agency, environmental groups who fear Britain's wetlands and rivers are being run dry by a tion and surging demand, and all 27 of the water companies in England and Wales.

It follows several dry years and forecasts that global warming will make water even more scarce.

Mike Walker, the WCA's head of policy, said that the time had come to draft a national strategy which balanced the the interest of consumers, government, green groups and water companies. The WCA also wants a study into the need for new reservoirs and underground stor-

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Man wrongly jailed for Birmingham pub bombing warns of the 'terrible trauma of normal life'

# Now released men face the ordeal of freedom

By CAROL MIDGLEY AND STEPHEN FARRELL

THE Bridgewater Three may feel jubilation now but the problems of freedom are only just beginning, members of the Birmingham Six and Guildford Four said yesterday.

Paddy Hill, 53, who served 17 years in prison after being wrongly convicted for the IRA Birmingham pub bombings, said not a week went by when he did not crave to be back

ed the Court of Appeal to support Vincent and Michael Hickey and Jim Robinson, said prisoners were not properly prepared to re-enter "normal" life and suffered "terrible trauma" on the outside. They often longed for the relative security of institutions where they did not have to make decisions for themselves.

You feel you don't belong. You are a lish out of water, said Mr Hill. "These lads will find that one minute they are on cloud nine and the next



Paddy Hill, one of the Birmingham Six, yesterday

14 years after being wrongly convicted for two 1974 pub

bombings in which seven

people died, said released

prisoners felt like orphans.

The people that Vincent, Michael and James are com-

ing out to have no idea of the

allowances they will have to

make. There is no basic love or

they are sitting on the floor crying like babies — and they won't know why the hell they

"You are just a shell. You try to get a job and people ask you whether you have been trained on IBM computers. I have to say I don't even know how to work a bloody television set. There is not a week goes by when I don't wish I was back in prison. You get no help, no counselling, nothing."

compassion shown in prison," he said. Among the 200 people in court were Sara Thornton, convicted of murdering her Gerard Conlon, who served

later freed after a retrial found her guilty of manslaughter. Jill Morrell, who campaigned for the release of the hostage John McCarthy, and George Silcott, brother of Winston Silcott, were also there. Showbusineess supporters included the actress Frances de la Tour and Roger Lloyd Pack, star of Only Fools and Horses. ☐ Michael Hickey's stepfather, a long-time campaigner for the release of the three, was himself behind bars yesterday

as they walked free. Frederick Whelan, 65, was jailed last month for a year by Leicester Crown Court for attempting to smuggle £140 worth of cannabis resin into Gartree Prison, after his stepson had asked for a "smoke" to relieve his boredom. He had no previous convictions.

Michael Hickey called yes-terday for his stepfather to be released. "I smoke cannabis. I learnt it in prison. I needed some drugs to stay alive and

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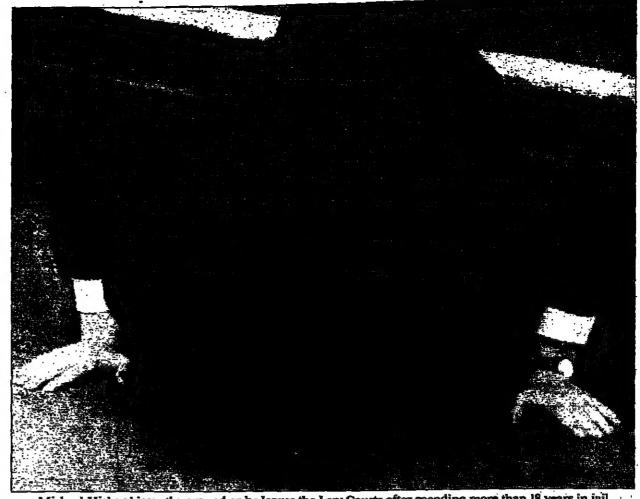
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Michael Hickey kisses the ground as he leaves the Law Courts after spending more than 18 years in jail

# Boy's family may never be freed from pain of grief

THE parents of Carl Bridgewater deal daily with an "open wound" of grief which after 19 years has not been allowed to heal, a local churchman said yesterday.

Brian and Janet Bridgewater made no comment about events in the Court of Appeal. But Canon Paul Tongue spoke for them in the small West Midlands town of Wordsley, when he said: There is total bewilderment and perplexity at the speed everything has happened in the last 24 hours.

"There is a wound that grief leaves, particularly when a child dies, let alone when he is murdered. That wound has got to be given time and peace said. "This may be the end for relief road. the Hickeys and Mr Robin-

would be doing now. You can

since has changed our minds. Canon Tongue said yesterday: "There will be disagreement about the guilt or innocence of these three men but the one thing about which the terrible situation that stifl remains for the parents-of Carl Bridgewater. The sad reality is their wound could be left open for the rest of their lives if there is no positive

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Mr Bridgewater, an engineer, and his wife still live in the neat terraced house from which Carl set out on his newspaper round in 1978. Their other children, Philip and Jane, liave moved away. The family home is a mile In which to heal and the from Yew Tree Farm where Bridgewaters have not had Carl was killed. The farm is that," Canon Tongue, the derelict after being bought by Rural Dean of Stourbridge, the council to make way for a

Mr and Mrs Bridgewater son but it is not for the left their home in the early hours yesterdayto stay with occasionally you can't help used to play with Carl said: but wonder what the boy "It is always displayed in banner headlines as 'the never get over something like Bridgewater case', which this and you can't describe brings it back for them each what it does to you. We were time. If the police tell you who convinced at the time that "killed your child then you've those men did it. Nothing got to believe them."



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# Former policeman who interviewed Pat Molloy is now a director in a Midlands security firm

# Ex-detective stays silent over forgery accusation

BY RICHARD DUCE AND RUSSRYL TENKINS

THE surviving detective constable accused of faking Vincent Hickey's confession was refusing to make a statement of his own yesterday, as allegations of police involvement in the miscarriage of justice provoked an outery.

Graham Leeke, 60, stayed

behind an anonymous wooden door at his security company, Heritage Security Services, in Sedgley, West Midlands. A woman employee said over the intercom: "He has got nothing to say."

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Since the interview with Pat Molloy almost 19 years ago, Mr Leeke has become a director in the security guard firm, and now lives in a £200,000 executive home in Perton, overlooking countryside near Wolverhampton.

His partner in the West Midlands force, DC John Perkins, died from cancer in 1993, aged 46, a discredited and disgraced man. His wife June always complained that pressure brought to bear by the

Bridgewater campaigners contributed to his early death. Mr Perkins had a hand in a significant proportion of the cases conducted by the West Midlands serious crimes squad that West Yorkshire Police were called in to review, and was once fined for falsifying evidence. The squad was disbanded after allegations that officers fabricated confessions and planted evidence in 23 cases during the 1980s. Members of the squad had also been involved in the convictions of the six men falsely imprisoned for 17 years for the Birmingham pub

When the Bridgewater Four lost their first appeal in 1989, Staffordshire Police — respon-

sible for the murder investiga-

tion - hailed the exposure of

the "tissue of lies and half

truths" put forward to discred-

it their evidence. Yesterday the Staffordshire and West

Midlands forces said they were waiting for the full Leeke: he had nothing to say

appeal evidence to emerge before commenting officially. John Giffard, Staffordshire Chief Constable, said: "This case has still to be heard by the Court of Appeal and, at this stage, no further comment can be made." A spokesman for the West Midlands said that the Merseyside Police inquiry into this case is continuing

and that they would receive the full support and co-operation of the force.

In the Court of Appeal.

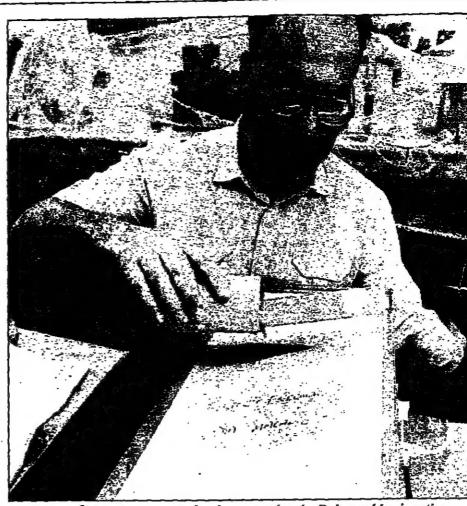
In the Court of Appeal, Michael Mansfield, QC, speaking for the defendants, said that a forged confession purporting to have been signed by Vincent Hickey was almost certainly written by Mr Leeke, and that Mr Perkins forged the signature.

Mr Leeke, and that Mr Perkins forged the signature.

Mr Molloy, who died in prison in 1981, always maintained that he had been shown just such a confession by police, but was not believed. Neither Mr Perkins nor Mr Leeke had anything to do with interviewing Hickey, who was being dealt with separately at another police station.

Last year, Mr Leeke said: "If the judges [in the appeal] ask me, I certainly have things to say and, believe me, I will tell them about what some of us think."

Last night he arrived back at his home with his wife Anne, and again refused to comment on the court



A manufacturer's representative demonstrating the Esda machine in action

#### **Evidence**

Continued from page I

imprint was discovered only two weeks ago when Jim Nichol, the convicted men's solicitor, was reviewing the evidence while preparing for the appeal due to start in April. And when Mr Nichol had the handwriting on the Hickey "statement" examined, his suspicions appeared to have been borne out.

Molloy's Interview was carried out by Detective Constable Graham Leeke and Detective Constable John Perkins with Detective Sergeant

John Robbins sitting outside.

The impressions in the body of the caption are in handwriting that certainly looks very similar to DC Leeke and the impressions in the signature of Vincent Hickey—which is certainly not a genuine Vincent Hickey signature—are very like the handwriting of DC Perkins", Mr Roberts told the court yesterday.

erts told the court yesterday.

The Crown accepted that there was "no other sensible explanation that we can properly put forward" other than that the Hickey confession was a forgery.

Constable Perkins, who has

Constable Perkins, who has since died, was disgraced in 1989 after he was caught falsifying a statement.

# Lawyer who never doubted the four were innocent

By RICHARD FORD

FOR Jim Nichol, the former pit worker, printer and now solicitor to the Bridgewater Three, yesterday's decision is a vindication of 14 years of

largely unpaid work.
He is one of a handful of solicitors whose belief in their clients' innocence has made them dogged campaigners for justice. He also helped to clear Eddie Browning of the murder of Marie Wilkes, and Colin Wallace, the former army information officer, of manslaughter. He has been pursuing the Bridgewater case since 1983, when he was first put in much with Ann Whelan, mother of Michael Hickey, by the journalist Paul Foot. Mr

Nichol: studied law at night school

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Nichol, 51, said: "I looked at the case and just believed they were innocent. That is why I

He has worked unpaid on the case, overcoming setbacks such as the announcement by the then Home Secretary. Kemeth Clarke, in 1993 that he would not refer the case to the Court of Appeal.

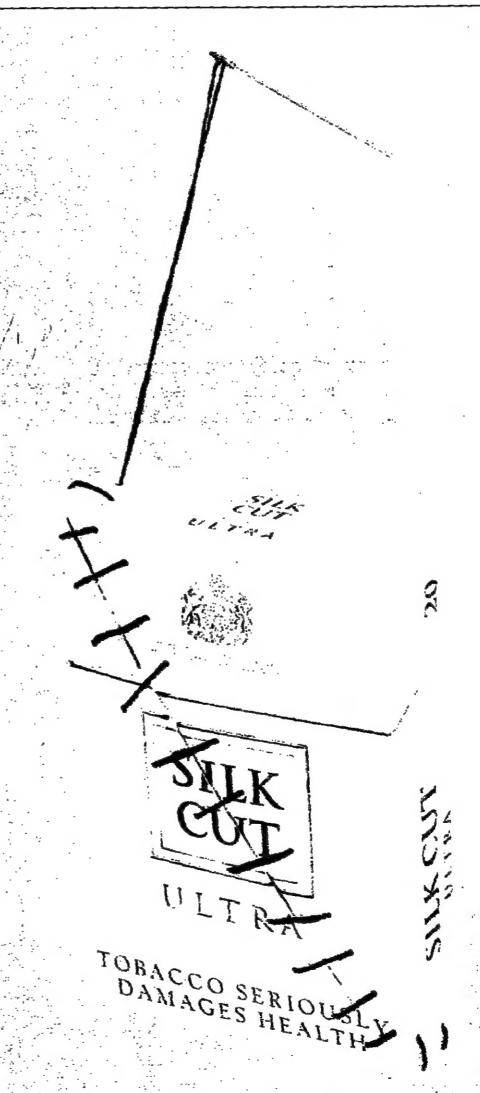
the Court of Appeal.

Mr Nichol was destined to follow his father at North Wallbottle colliery on the edge of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. His parents died when he was a boy and he was brought up by an aunt and uncle in Lemington near Newcastle and left school at 15. Having contracted tuberculosis, he could not go underground, as his father had done, and worked above ground at the pit.

He became a printer and became a solicitor only at the age of 36, after studying law at night school. He would still like to go to university.

At his practice in Finsbury Park, north London, his partner is Carolyn Taylor, niece of the former Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth. Ms Taylor said: "Jim is driven. He takes the work home."

Mr Nichol, whose daughter was in court to witness yesterday's triumph, said that "gut instinct" had made him look again at the confession that had proved conclusive to undermining the Crown's case.



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THE TIMES DILLONS CRIME FORUM

CRIME

# Cleveland's shock tactics to curb youth crime may be adopted by other police forces

# Glimpse of prison hell cuts teenage reoffending by half

THE reality of prison life is being brought home to young offenders on Teesside. They are shown the slopping-out ssue underwear and the metal food trays on which custard flows into gravy as the inmate carries his meal back to his cell, perhaps up three flights of been a tremendous success."

Sexual abuse and constant obscenity are also discussed as is the prevalence of bullying

The Cleveland police project that uses shock tactics to stop young people reoffending is being studied by the Home Office and other forces. Graphic descriptions of the dehumanising and degrading experience of doing time has cut the level of repeat offend-ing by teenagers in Stockton y more than half.

Just as the 17th-century astronomer Galileo recanted and withdrew his beliefs that the Earth was not the centre of the Universe when shown the torture instruments of the Inquisition, the teenagers are taking the warnings about

TESCO

officer, said: "At the end of one session one boy's mother was nearly sick at what she had been shown. Another woman was sobbing and her son was comforting her in his arms. He promised her he would never do anything to get himself locked away. It has

The Stockton scheme relies on two prison officers, Andy Mitchell and Bob Puckie, from the nearby Holme House jail. ving their time voluntarily. The Prison Service is considering a request from the Inspec-Constabulary to dedicate staff full-time to run similar projects elsewhere.

The scheme — "Prison, Me? No Way" - was tested for three months last year and has now been adopted as perma-nent policy by Cleveland police. During the trial period 31 young offenders attended Sunday morning sessions at Stockton police station. Of those attending only five have reoffended, against the normal reoffending rate of 37 per

offence. Those caught a second time are given the option of facing the courts or attending the "warts-and-all" course.

They and their families inside Hull prison that follows an offender as he enters the system. It begins with him being stripped and examined and given regulation prison clothes. The daily routine inside is then shown with a full stereo system amplifying the sounds of incarceration.

Afterwards the two prison officers talk frankly about prison life, including graphic details of the drugs, the gangs and even the sexual assaults. Mr Walker said: "The officers tell them not to believe anything their mates have told them about it being a cushy life. In Holme House there are two pool tables for 750 people. Only the bullies get to play on those. The TV goes on from 5.30 to 7.30 and only the bullies get to watch it." Inspector Ian Birch, the

head of Stockton district, said: 'Any youngsters tempted to when they have seen the video



Hard-hitting: Prison Officer Andy Mitchell underlines the realities of prison to young first offenders in Stockton

and have got a taste of life behind bars. Another bonus is that other members of the family of young offenders, including brothers, sisters and friends, also attend the scheme on a voluntary basis. It means peer pressure to commit crime be reduced as more

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people than anticipated know the consequences of commit-

ting crime. Youngsters are told straight away that after a second caution they have no more chances and that they

getting the message home and the scheme is working." The programme costs about £160 a person per year, compared to the £1,500 a week it

costs to keep an offender in Prison Officer Mitchell said: Some people think prison is

watching TV all day long but that's not the case. Youngsters are shown the indignity of life in prison and what it is like to eat and sleep in a cell where you also have a toilet. Offenders are shocked by what they see and results show the

### Eurotunnel in freight safety talks

Eurotunnel has begun talks with safety officials about restarting freight shuttle services. But the company refused to comment on a French press report that it had decided against safer but more expensive shuttle wagons. The safety of the open wagons was questioned after drivers were hurt in a fire on a freight shuttle last November. Eurotunnel said that it had submitted only draft proposals to the Channel Tunnel Safety Authority.

#### Fan assaulted

James "Five Bellies" Gardner, a friend of the Glasgow Rangers player Paul Gas-coigne, was fined £500 at Paisley Sheriff Court for asaulting a Celtic fan in a pub. The Rangers player Charlie Miller and Steven McDermoff were cleared of charges arising from the incident.

#### Freedom plea

Alexander Hall, 42, a former Strathelyde policeman jailed for life in 1988 for slitting the throat of a teenage girl, will ask for temporary freedom next month pending appeal. Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, has agreed to have the case re-examined in the light of new evidence.

#### Yoghurt recall

gipulated

Safeway has recalled 150g pots of its own-brand toffee and hazelnut yoghurts because the contents may have been mistakenly switched. Tesco is also recalling jars of its Chocolate Swirl and 325g and 200g jars of Chocolate contain traces of nut.

#### Blackmail case

A man who threatened to cut the throat of a Trafalgar Square ice cream vendor unless he paid £7,000 protection money was jailed for 33 months. Bob Darke, 37, of Kennington, south London, pleaded guilty to blackmail. His partner: was earlier jailed for four years.

#### Baby snatcher

Sarah Allen, 24, of Maybush. charges of trying to abduct babies and asked for nine other cases to be considered at Winchester Crown Court. She was placed on probation providing she undergoes psychiatric treatment.

#### Road 'shooting'

A "stressed" driver who fired an imitation gun at another motorist was jailed for four months. Paul Marcham, 27, of Whitley Wood, Reading, fired a blank from his car as the other man ran up to him after problems in

### Catholic pupils ran drugs ring

By David Charter, education correspondent

PARENTS at a Roman Catholic independent school were their wits about them" after the headmaster broke up a

drugs ring involving 20 pupils. Two fifth-form boys were expelled and 18 suspended over their involvement in supplying and using cannabis at St Bede's College in Man-chester. The school joins a long list of leading schools that drug-taking in the past year. They include Eton and Wel-lington College in Berkshire, and the King's School at Rochester, Kent.

Drugs have become so commonplace in schools that the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference of leading independent schools has suggested that pupils caught using cannabis should be given a second chance. Exeter University researchers said last year that a survey of 50,000 teenagers found that a third of boys and more than a quarter of girls aged 15 and 16 claimed

to have tried cannabis. John

Bede's, has called in counsellors from Lifeline, an agency that deals with heroin addicts, to lecture the college's 1,020 pupils. In a letter to parents, Mr Byrne says: The gover-nors and the staff are at one in deploring the drugs culture which bedevils Greater Manchester. We treat with contempt the notion of the so-

fully ask parents to keep their wits about them with regard to their children's behaviour and social habits. You are only too aware that many of the pubs and clubs are the refuges of the drugs pushers. But equally worrying is the prevalence of drugs at parties where peer pressure and fear of ostracism may induce the naive teenager

Every pupil will be warned of the dangers of drugs when they return to college — motto Nunquam Otio Torpebat (Never Allow Yourself To Be Lazy) - on Monday after the



#### Historic radar site is listed

A 350ft steel tower which formed part of Britain's first radar air-defence system has been given listed building

RAF Stenigot, on the Lin-colashire Wolds, is regarded as the best remaining example of the 20 radar sites constructed along the east coast in 1939. The Chain Home system, as it was known, played a vital role in the Battle of Britain and other RAF operations during the Second World War.

Stenigot, between Louth and Horncastle, was chosen because it occupies the highest point along the east coast between Yorkshire and Kent. Stenigot was also used as a Gee Station, with secret elec-tronic technology which di-rected British bomber crews to enemy targets with pin-point accuracy. Now its galvanised seed transmittertower and two buildings have been Grade II listed.



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# New hand finds Blue Peter still on course after 39 years

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IF THE names Christopher Trace, Valerie Singleton, John Noakes and Peter Purves mean anything to you, then you probably won't care much that Richard Bacon, a former local radio reporter, was yesterday named the 24th presenter of Blue Peter.

Bacon replaces the resident hunk, Tim Vincent, on what remains the BBC's flagship children's programme after nearly 40 years, when most people might have assumed that there just wasn't any tall building that hadn't been abseiled, or any animal that hadn't been allowed to poop on the studio floor.

Christopher Trace and Leila Williams were the first presenters in 1958. Although the flesh in front of the camera has changed over the years, the spirit of Blue Peter - a programme which has given "sticky-back plastic" and "Get down Shep!" an almost Proustian undertow for generations of children has stayed the same.

Bacon's audition involved bouncing on a trampoline and handling a snake — tricks same passion that Tony Blair



Model presenters: Christopher Trace, Valerie Singleton and, right, John Noakes in 1966

you would be asked to perform at a job interview only for Blue Peter or for one of the more progressive merchant

Bacon, 21, has already been given his first television as-signment a trip to the jungle of Brunei for military training. Climbing remote moun-tains and building Thunder-birds Tracy Island out of old toilet rolls and egg boxes is apparently what Bacon had been aching to do all his short

Keating filming Blue Peter when I was with my family." Bacon said. "I was about ten, but I had dreams that it would be me one day. I couldn't believe it when I heard I had got the job. I've had to keep it a secret for over a week. When I rang my mum she jumped up and down screaming with excitement. Oliver Macfarlane, the edi-

tor of Blue Peter, said: "We looked far and wide for our

new presenter. Richard is hugely likeable and that imm-ediately came across in the audition. He's a good presenter and should be able to cope with most things that Blue Peter throws at him."

Bacon, born in Mansfield, began his career as a reporter at BBC Radio Nomingham before moving to the cable channel Live TV. At Blue Peter he will join on the sofa Stuart Miles, Katy Hill and Romana D'Annunzio — names currently recognisable only to those still in short trousers or Spice Girls T-shirts, but probably not for long.

ing crèpe paper orto empty washing up liquid bottles for long enough to make their woolly jumpers look lived-in, the current crop often stays only as long as it takes to get a sexier offer from elsewhere. Most famously, Anthea Turner went onwards and upwards — if not always happily, as her high profile and even higher salary attracted a certain amount of ridicule, not least from some of her subsequent co-presenters, such as Eamonn Holmes. Actor-cum-presenter Tim Vincent, whom Bacon is replac-



Richard Bacon meeting his new colleagues, from left: Romana D'Annunzio, Stuart Miles and Katy Hill

ing, has appeared in The Clothes Show and the drama series Dangerfield. He has

also been a model. Blue Peter has lived on long

Stranks, who gave the pro-gramme a sexier accent than had been the norm on chil-

Thames launched Magpie in dren's television. But they 1968 with Tony Bastable, were pitted, in that year, Peter Brady and Susan against the Blue Peter dream against the Blue Peter dream team of Singleton, Noakes. Purves and Petra the dog.

had an amiable maniac who was willing to undertake any assignment - however hazardous or barmy - as long as he could be accompanied by a

# Top 40 is being manipulated, says Radio 1

By Damian Whitworth

RECORD companies are giv-ing away so many free and discounted singles to boost their success in the Top 40 that even the BBC says the chart has lost its credibility. An expose of the practice is

to be broadcast on Radio I tomorrow night, after the chart programme. The Top 40 is compiled from figures for the number of records sold each week while other charts are based on the amount of airber one slot. The records were

then sold at normal price. A number-one hit guarantees publicity for a group that will assist in much more

lucrative album sales. Shops were asked how it was possible to sell CD singles for just 99p when the normal price was around £3. It emerged that record companies were offering them up to three free singles for every one the shop bought and two shops were even given completely free stock.

In November last year Mark Owen, the former Take That singer, saw his single

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Child shoot straight to number 2. One shop was offered one free record for every one it bought. But when these failed to sell, the whole stock was

John Preston, of the British Phonographic Institute and BMG Records (UK), to which Owen is signed, said: "Some of those records may have been given away but not in the kind of quantities that our competitors have." He said that 300,000 to 400,000 copies of time each single receives. Investigators for the programme. Hyping the Hits, found that shops were being found that shops were being found that shops were being that the state of the stat given free records so that they per cent but I honestly don't could sell them at discounts. know. That kind of discount is and push them into the numchicken is going on. Are we first to decide we are not doing what our competitors are do-

ing?" head of BBC Music Entertainment, said: "The only way you can tell how popular a record is is how slowly it goes down the chart," he said.

He said listeners had a right to know what was happening. The public may not be aware of how the chart is manipulated. We have an obligation to

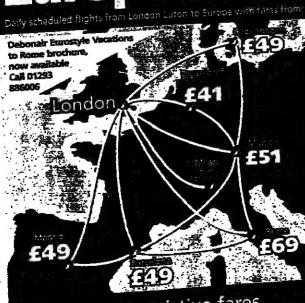
let them know." The BBC is reviewing, with the record industry, the way the chart is compiled.

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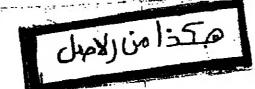
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# Chief Rabbi places morality firmly on the political agenda



BY RUTH GLEDHILL AND DANIEL JOHNSON

THE Chief Rabbi, Dr Jonathan and Republicans in America, and Sacks, roday calls on the political parties to restore the Judaeo-Christian tradition to the centre of British national life. With his book, The Politics of Hope, Dr Sacks attempts to place morality on the agenda of political debate and advocates a liberal society rooted in communal and family values.

Dr Sacks argues that the views he holds are also being adopted "by politicians at both ends of the

philosophy of his predecessor, Lord Jakobovits, who was close to Margaret Thatcher and espoused many members of the Labour, Conservaof her political views. But Dr. Sacks tive and Liberal Democrat parties in is also scathing in his treatment of Britain" — but his scathing attack the permissive society of the 1960s on contemporary Britain will be particularly welcome to the Labour and the libertarians of the left.

The timing, so near to an election, of the first purely political work by a Chief Rabbi, and the first by the head of any British religious denomination for more than 50 years, will be seen as provocative by Dr Sacks's critics among orthodox Jews. In his book, serialised in The

Times from today. Dr Sacks mounts a critique of Margaret Thatcher's oft-quoted statement: There is no such thing as society." Dr Sacks comments: "This is a tenable view and there is only one thing to be said against it. It has been tried and it has failed."

He adds: "It has given rise to a social order — or more precisely, to a social disorder — more bleak than any within living memory. Today many parts of Britain and America are marked by vandalism, violent crime and a loss of civility; by the breakdown of the family and the

widespread neglect of children; by an erosion of trust and a general loss of faith in the power of governments to cure some of our most deep-seated problems."

Dr Sacks says higher-income groups benefited disproportionately from the tax-cutting programmes of Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher in the 1980s, but argues that the real inequality of postindustrial capitalism goes far deeper. He says the "new rich" no longer mix with the poor as, for example, lords mixed with serfs in earlier ages. "Social geography is gradually polarising between the urban ghetto and the gilded ghetto," he

Dr Sacks says he is not arguing for a return to Victorian values. There is nothing to be said for marching boldly towards the past," he says. What the Victorians taught us is that whatever we seek collectively to create, the way to do so is to focus on character and on the institutions that promote a strong sense of personhood and social

Dr Jonathan Sacks, page 22

# Archbishop of York opposes US-style tele-evangelism

BY RUTH GLEDHILL RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Archbishop of York. Dr David Hope, said yesterday he would strongly oppose the establishment of fundamentalist American-style teleevangelism radio and televi-

sion stations in Britain. Dr Hope had helped to romote the London Christian Radio Station, but said that it was "ecumenically broadbased", different in tone and content from those he was criticising. He particularly criticised Mother Angelina, the Roman Catholic broadcaster who has a huge following for her radio station in America with her denunciations of the world and the flesh. He did

country and argued that the Church should rather seek to convey its message through the mainstream media.

Typical of the kind of American tele-evangelist who would be opposed by the Archbishop was Jim Bakker. who, with his wife, found wealth and fame in the 1980s with their upbeat message. In his auto-biography, Mr Bakker charts his downfall after the press learnt of his adultery. Jimmy Swaggart, another American tele-evangelist, resigned after admitting that he had slept with a prostitute.

Radio and television could help to pose the right questions, he said, arguing for the preservation of straightfor-

ward "religious" programmes such as BBC Radio 3's Choral Evensong and BBC1's Songs of Praise. These are still remarkably valid, and faithcreating and faith-provoking. They still command considerable audience figures."

leader. Tony Blair. He shares the

Chief Rabbi's interest in the Ameri-

can communitarian movement and

his rejection both of "the politics of

His critique of Thatcherism and

collectivism and the politics of

private initiative".

There was a "spiritual hunger" that the Church had to learn to address through the media. "Everywhere [ go I hear a similar story: that people want to believe in God. in Heaven; in something other than the rather shallow and predictable existence which can so easily become the norm, and that more than 70 per cent of the population say

This presented a challenge



The American tele-evangelists Jim Bakker, with his wife Tammy, and Jimmy Swaggart, with his wife Frances. Both men faced scandal

for the Church, operating as it did in a culture where the answers to life's questions had to be presented in a few sentences. Dr Hope, addressing journalists, clergy and students, at Newcastle University, said it was essential that "seize the agenda".

"I acknowledge the need for us within the Church of England to be media-aware - less naive, more ready to understand the complexities of a media-saturated world." The mobile phone-carrying Archbishop has two of the most astute religious public relations officials in the Church of

England - Raymond Barker and the Rev Rob Marshall. Dr Hope admitted that he was not a regular listener to BBC Radio 4's Thought for the Day or Prayer for the Day, but said that his local radio station in York had a three-hour

ied and lively". The numbers listening to religious pro-grammes on a Sunday, such as the one in York and BBC Radio 4's Sunday were remarkable, he said.

Dr Hope said: "There are those who conclude the whole [media] show to be so corruntfaith community should shun them entirely. Indeed, I know those whose basic policy is to say nothing: 'not available'. 'no comment'. This, in my view, is unrealistic."

Weekend, page 15

# Let's not shop until we drop but rather care until we share





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Easter festivities. The language associated with Lent tells its own story. The name comes from the Anglo-Saxon word denoting the lengthening of the days as spring gains a hold. On the eve of Lent comes the carnival of Mardi Gras. "Carnival" comes from "carne" and "vale": farewell to meat. Mardi Gras means Fat Tuesday, when milk and butter have to

be finished prior to the austere diet of a traditional Lent. Exercises of self-denial. such as fasting, are easily misunderstood. They can seem an unhealthy attempt to expurgate a sense of guilt or



deity. More probably they can healthier living. But which refined by Christian faith they are understood and experienced as an attempt to free one's inmost spirit to be more responsive to the things of

The observance of Lent is not a "do this or else" exercise. It is an invitation to enter more deeply into the reality of God's presence and the exquisite joy of knowing God more

clearly.

Traditionally the practice of Lent calls for three kinds of effort: self-denial, prayer and practical charity towards those in need. Each aspect addresses our tendency to lose sight of God. Self-denial is the

opposite of compulsive con-sumerism. To do with less frees one from the siren call of constant shopping. Prayer puts into practice the truth that in God alone is to be found the source of lasting God's blessing all will crumble to dust. Almsgiving or practical charity reminds us on trust by God for the common good, not just for

ourselves. Lent, like spring, is a time of new life. It is a clearing out of the dross, a refining of the spirit, a breaking of idols and false gods. Without it our lives become cluttered and confused. With a renewed sense of God, we find again a focus of judgment, of knowing the true from the false. Dilemmas emain in abundance, but our homing sense has been

☐ The Right Rev Vincent Nichols is the Roman Catholic Auxiliary Bishop of

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Alle Anna Anna Anna Anna

# Artist returns to oils to capture light and colour

# Traditional skills flower at Hockney's new show

ARTS CORRESPONDENT

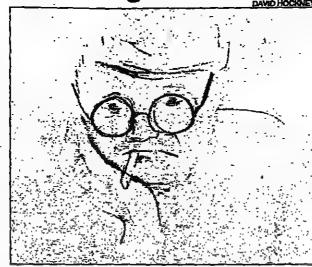
THE spectacular latest paintings by David Hockney, Britain's most celebrated living artist, will go on sale in May in his largest commercial show in London. Shown here in a special preview, the images of irises, sunflowers and violets, drenched in a radiant Californian light, use mesmerising colours that stay with the viewer long after they

in the new paintings. Hockney has forsaken faxes, photocopiers and other technology that has inspired experimentation, to return to the original tools of his trade: oils and canvas.

Hockney, who lives in Califormia, spoke yesterday of the influence of a revelatory exhibition last year on Vermeer, the 17th-century Dutch master of light. "What struck me was how vivid and strong the colour was in paintings which are 300 years old. It was partly the way he'd painted them."

"I came back here and realised we've got a marvellous abundance of wonderful. strong light. I began to arrange daylighting in different ways. The most important thing was the way colour was

put on so as to stay there. "I put on thin layers, so that it is transparent. Vermeer's technique was thin layers thin layers of ultramarine, for



Hockney by Hockney: a charcoal sketch from 1983 shows the way he constantly explores new styles

colour. If you look at the paintings, they look so incred-

ibly thickly painted. But come

up close and you can nearly see the cauvas through the

Hockney, born in 1937,

began the series with sunflowers when his close friend,

Jonathan Silver, a business-

man and collector from

Hockney's home-town of

Bradford, sent him 59 sunflowers for his 59th birthday:

days. That's what I took to

paint them. After then, they bend and fall, I wanted to

painted 30 of them. You don't get too long to paint them. They only lasted six

example, to make it blue. It's because of the colour that it's lasted 300 years. I've painted flowers throughout my career, but I've never really done a whole series."

Such is Hockney's draw for collectors, he commands prices fetched by Old Masters. The latest pictures, to be exhibited at Annely Juda Fine Art in central London from May I, range in price from E150,000 to £400,000.

David Juda, co-director of the gallery where the works will be shown, said: These are the best paintings he's done in the past 15 years. They're so immediate. It's the paint pictures with a lot of yellow - the colour of hope, according to Van Gogh, and a rare colour in painting at the

cised art schools that do not teach the basic crafts of painting and drawing, learnt the rules at Bradford College of Art and the Royal School of Art before breaking them.

He is best known for such images as A Bigger Splash (1967), the brilliant blue swimming pool painting depicting a splash just made by an unseen, submerged diver, his 1969 portrait of the fashion designer Ossie Clark in Mr and Mrs Clark and Percy both owned by the Tate Gallery — and the suite of charming etchings Six Fairy Tales From the Brothers Grimm, also from

Hockney's show, which opens on May I, will include a series of portraits among the 48 paintings. He remains faithful to his sitters and they will reappear in the latest images; his 96-year-old mother is among them.

The artist will fly to London to direct the hanging an exhibition's installation is of him. Inspired by his work in stage design, he has construc-ed a complete scale model of the Annely Juda gallery at his Los Angeles studio and had every picture reduced to post-



Hockney's latest oil on canvas works can command Old Master prices

#### Robber is jailed for snatching Rolex

A ROBBER who wrested Rolex watches from a couple whose Range Rover was held up in traffic was jailed for ten years yesterday. Judge Elfer, QC, said that Tarek Alayli carried out a "ruthless and terrilying" attack on victims whose only crime "was that by working hard at their chosen professions, they carried their riches of Rolex on their left

Alayli, 21, of Fulham, southwest London, admitted at Southwark Crown Court robbing Victor Monsey, 53, a company director, of his £16,000 Rolex and trying to rob his wife Elizabeth, 36, a cable television executive, of her £12,000 watch.

The couple, from Barnes, southwest London, fell prey last August to a gang armed with knives who had spent an afternoon driving around in a stolen car "seeking to prey on any victims who appeared to

have valuable items". Mr Monsey, who a few months earlier had a severe heart attack, and his wife were injured. Philip Shorrock, for the prosecution, said the robbery ended when a passer-by intervened with a golfing umbrella. The judge awarded a £600 "thank-you" to three South African tourists who

At the time of the incident Alayli was awaiting trial for robbing a woman at her home. He was sentenced yesterday to six years for that offence and four years consec-

# Women hope to ring changes at St Paul's

BY RUTH GLEDHILL RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

PRESSURE is mounting for St Paul's to admit women to its beliringing guild following the appointment of the cathedral's first woman priest, the Rev Lucy Winkett.

Women can take the ropes as guest ringers at St Paul's, but it is the only one of England's 42 cathedrals to exclude women from its resi-

Leading the call for women. lringers is Paul Smith, a 'treated as chattels" and that humiliated". Mr Smith resigned as a member of the guild in protest over other matters before Christmas.

Eminent women ringers have backed the call for change, which many consider to be overdue, especially in the light of Miss Winkers appointment as a minor canon from September. St Paul's, whose 12 bells are among the most difficult to ring in the country and whose guild is respected nationally for its expertise, draws its ringers from the Ancient Society of College Youths, a strictly male

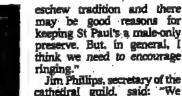
Baroness Cox, who rings atthe 14th-century St Mary's at Monken Hadley, near Barnet, north London, said: "It seems to me that there is tension between long-established tra-



Winkett: appointment has encouraged ringers

ditions, and sometimes traditions can be precious, compared with an attempt to open up ringing in what has been a male preserve. Without undermining tradition, I think bellringing is a marvellous part of our English heritage and would like to see as many people as possible getting joy and satisfaction from it."

She said there was no reason why women could not ring as well as men. "Women have a lot to give and a lot to receive from what is a very precious part of our English heritage. I am not one to

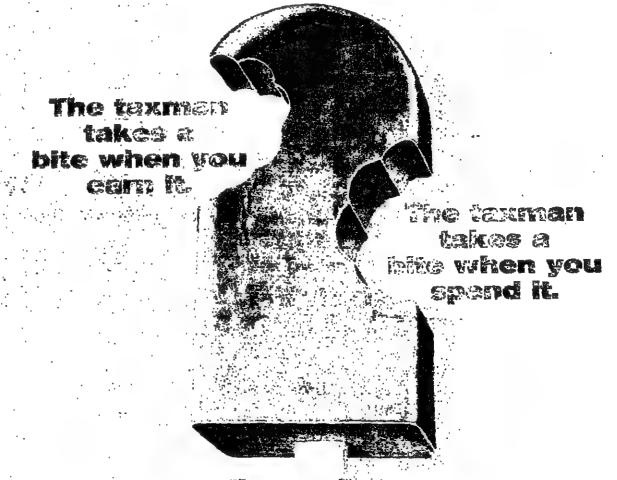


ringing."
Jim Phillips, secretary of the cathedral guild, said: "We have six or seven ladies on whom we call regularly. If a competent lady turns up when there is a full complement of guild members, one of the guild will sit down and allow

One insider said: "This is not something that has just signed before Christmas but at the time he did not mention women as a reason for his resignation. He was unhappy about other things. There are often lady visitors to the tower

at St Paul's." The cathedral has been a bastion of Anglo-Catholic traditionalism in the Church of England, but the appointment of Miss Winkett indicates that under the stewardship of the new Dean, Dr John Moses

changes could be afoot. Some churchmen nior church figures, while reluctant to be quoted, are also quietly hoping for change on many fronts at the Church's flagship cathedral.



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#### Protestants and Catholics from Northern Ireland follow Wilde and Beckett to Dublin

# Students pursue course of peace across the divide

By NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

BRIGHT young Protestants and Roman Catholics from Northern Ireland are forming new friendships in a rush to study in Dublin. After three decades of being shumoed during the Troubles, Trinity College Dublin is resuming its traditional role as the Oxbridge of Ireland.

Students from communities in Northern Ireland have doubled to 600 in the past two years. More than half are Protestants, who steered clear of Dublin at the height of the conflict. Roman Catholic students were once relatively rare because, until 1970, they had to secure a special dispensa-tion from the Church to attend the "dissident" Protestant Trinity founded by Queen

The increased popularity is seen as a direct result of the peace process. Rossa Coyle, 18, from Co Armagh, who was educated at a Catholic school, said she barely knew any Protestants until she started her English degree at Trinity last October. Within days of enrolling, she had struck up strong friendships and is now sharing a flat in Dublin with Caroline Jones, 19, a Protestant from Belfast.

Miss Coyle said; "Trinity really is a melting pot where everyone is so friendly. I know lots of Protestants from North-

ern ireland, but I would never think of asking them their religion. When pictures of the north come on television, I tease Caroline about Orange marches, but it is not serious."

Miss Jones, who is in the first year of a degree in history, ancient history and archaeology, said that increas-ing numbers of Protestants ventured south as a direct result of the IRA ceasefire, but she had detected a slight chilling in the atmosphere since its collapse. She said: "It was so lovely during the peace. But I would say that I am made much more conscious of the fact that I am a Protestant. Some people from the south blame Protestants because they assume you are

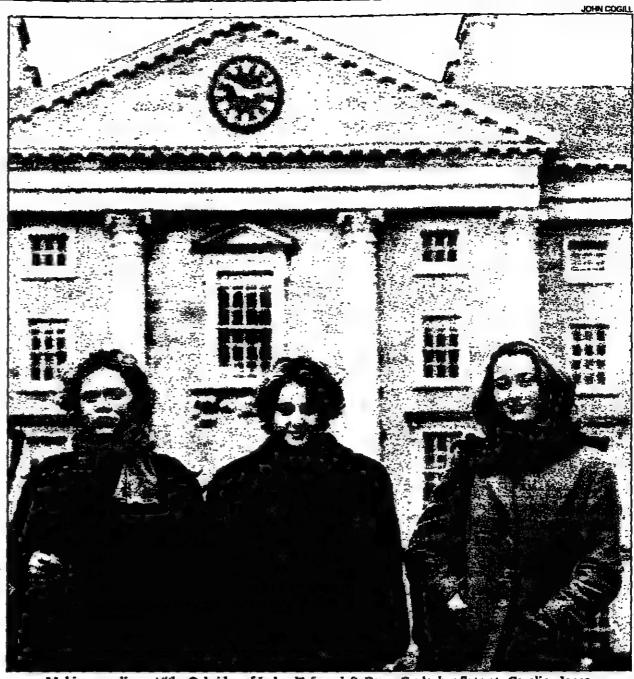
Unionist." Catherine Donnelly, 23. a Catholic from Galbally, Co Tyrone, a scholar in the final year of her law degree, said she came to Dublin because she wanted a different experience. She said: "Dublin is a lovely city and Trinity is such a nice college. There is so much to do."

Trinity once stood out as a symbol of Ireland's sectarian divisions. Known as the "University of the Anglo-Irish Ascendancy", a third of its were Protestants from Northern Ireland. another third came from Britain and the rest came from the Republic. When the Troubles erupted in 1969, the numbers from Northern Ireland fell to 5 per cent as Protestants avoided Dublin, which was regarded as Republican territory. and enrolled in British universities or stayed in Northern

Trinity, which has 8,000 students, is delighted with the new influe. Dr Thomas Mitchell, the Provost, said: "It is very encouraging that students, and their parents in particu-lar, think that it is once again appropriate that they should attend university in Dublin and that they are confident they will be welcome." The increase means that

public schools in Northern

treland are resuming contacts. with Dublin. The Portors Royal School in Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh, which sent Oscar Wilde and Samuel Beckett to Trinity, is having little difficulty in encouraging its students to follow in their footsteps. Richard Bennett, Portora's principal, who studled at Trinity in the early 1960s, said: "I am very pleased. The renewed Irish dimension is important for northern students. I think it is also important for the university to be seen as an all-Ireland institution which it was set up



Making new lives at "the Oxbridge of Ireland": from left, Rossa Coyle, her flatmate Caroline Jones, and Catherine Donnelly. Miss Coyle said: "Trinity really is a melting pot where everyone is so friendly

# Robber paralysed in supermarket raid given £150,000 home

BY IAN MURRAY COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

AN ARMED robber, paralysed from the neck down after being shot by rival criminals during a supermarket raid, is to be rehoused in a purpose-built £150,000 flat and given round-the-clock care at a cost of £2,500 a week.

Gary Mullins, 28, has been a patient at Stoke Mandeville Hospital since April 1994, when he and an accomplice were gunned down by an Ulster loyalist gang who were attempting to rob the same store.

Considered too ill to stand trial for the raid in which he was injured, he will need 24-hour care in the fourbedroom flat provided by a housing association in Islington, north London.

He had a string of convictions for violent crime, and had spent much of his adult life in prison. While in hospital, he was infamous for abusing staff and other patients.

Colin Meek, 26, his accomplice, was shot in the head by the loyalist. gang but has made a 90 per cent recovery. Last hope he was jailed for ten years for his part in the raid in Islington, during which the two men threatened staff with a sawnoff shotgun and sprayed them with CS gas before stealing nearly £7,000 from the tills.

The loyalist gang, who had been staking out the same store, shot them as they tried to make their getaway in a stolen car. Three members of the loyalist gang have since received 20-year sentences for attempted murder.

The Crown Prosecution Service decided not to prosecute Mullins for the robbery, in which he was hit by a bullet which severed his spinal

cord. His condition has been stabilised and he has moved from the Buckinghamshire hospital to a north London nursing home while his new flat is equipped to suit his needs. Among the necessary equip-ment is a small generator to provide back-up for the ventilator which helps him to breathe.

Islington council is responsible for housing Mullins because he was born and brought up in the borbugh. He is considered a priority case so he has jumped to the top of the list. His flat is on a small housing association estate, half a

mile from the scene of the robbery. We cannot discuss individual cases but have a statutory duty to look after people according to their health needs under the Community Care Act, the Housing Act and the Chronically Sick and Disabled Act," the council said. "The circumstances in which someone has become paralysed have nothing to do with our legal responsibility.

Although the council is required to find accommodation, it will not have to pay for it. Rent for the flat will be covered by housing benefit and most of the nursing package

will be funded by Camden and Islington Health Authority. Sarah Ludford, leader of the Liberal Democrat group on Islington council, said it was shocking that an armed criminal could get to the top of the housing list ahead of law-abiding citizens. This man has spent his life preying on a community that is now going to have to pay to look after him." Ms Ludford said. Everyone has the right to community care, but I would like to be assured that there are not more deserving cases ahead of him in the

#### Why firms kick bad workers upstairs

BY NIGEL HAWKES SCIENCE EDITOR

PROMOTION is a good way to get rid of a poor worker. psychologists said yesterday. A better-sounding job title means that the unwanted employee will look good to a rival firm on the job market.

Really talented people are more likely to stay for money than a title. The hidden benefits of taking incompetent staff and "kicking them upstairs" were highlighted in a US study which examined the employment records of more than 5,000 employees of an unnamed oil company.

Three researchers from Cornell University looked at what had happened to people hired between 1983 and 1988 and who were either still employed or had resigned voluntarily by the beginning of 1990. They were interested in the relationships between employee performance ratings, salary growth, promo-tions, and other factors, and how these influenced decisions to stay or leave.

Charlie Trevor, Dr Barry Gerhart, and Dr John Bondreau report in the Jour-nal of Applied Psychology that promotion is one way of getting rid of poorer per-formers, because it gives them visibility and legitimacy in the job market. Promotion had no effect on the turnover of the best-performing em-

These people already enjoyed high marketability, so promotions alone — unless allied to extra salary - did little to discourage them from taking up attractive offers from other employers.

High salary growth helped most to retain the high performers. Because they find it easier to move, their turnover is more highly dependent on being satisfied to stay where they are, which depends on salary growth.

Merit pay systems that fail to recognise the difference between the best and worst performers are likely to contribute to high-performer turnover, they note: Tomorrow's stars may be among today's few top performers, their retention, at least in part, appears to depend on paying them according to their performance."





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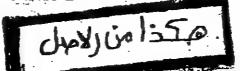
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# Belgrade Mayor ends 50 years of socialist power

FROM TOM WALKER IN BELGRADE

ie ZORAN DJINDJIC was yesterday elected the Mayor of Belgrade, ending fifty years of th Socialist rule in the Serb

Preparations for a street 17 party began in earnest after the vote, and hundreds of B. thousands were expected last night in the city centre to celebrate a milestone in the Zajedno coalition's crusade to rid Serbia of President Milosevic's moribund regime. They were lent heart by

growing signs that Serbia's se federal Yugoslav partner, er Montenegro, is growing tired m of Mr Milosevic's deadweight. which so straps its economy. Mile Djukanovic, the Monte negrin Prime Minister, said it would be "totally wrong" for him to stay in power, raising doubts as to whether Mr Milosevic can garner the Montenegrin support he will need to become the next Yugoslav federal President.

Yesterday's vote, a formality, was nonetheless a warning to Zajedno of the difficulties of keeping friends in the fractious battleground of Balkan politics. A withering and personal attack by Vojislav Seselj. the ultra-nationalist former Serb paramilitary leader, left Mr Djindjic red-faced and the session in procedural chaos.

"Once a thicl always a hief," screamed Mr Seselj,

that Mr Djindjic had once unstinting support since Nov-stolen a leather jacket and a ember, when Mr Milosevic more recent rumour that he had paid two representatives to switch parties. "Who knows what he will steal next?"

Mr Seselj, whose friends include Jean-Marie Le Pen, the French National Front leader, has mined a rich vein of political capital from the foreign support given to Zajedno during its 88 days of protest. He made full use of the foreign media yesterday, giving a theatrical performance, "No one has marched behind a German flag in Belgrade since 1944," he said. "You're not electing a Belgrade Mayor, you're electing a

Sturmführer. Ignoring the attacks, the new Mayor of Belgrade thanked the people for their

#### Berisha travels to raise support

Tirana: President Berisha of Albania dismissed demands for his resignation over the crash of pyramid investment funds and headed to the north of the country in his campaign to win back public support. On Thursday protesters in the capital threw stones at police who fired live rounds

overturned Zaiedno's election victories. "I see the great will of the people," he said. "Final-ly Belgrade will become a world metropolis."

He recognised the most obvious problem for Zajedno councils - the bankrupt town halls they have inherited, and the likelihood that Mr Milosevic will attempt to starve them of state cash - but pledged: "Belgrade must be come a mirror of Serbia."

Although he acknowledged his Serb Radical Party could not affect yesterday's outcome, Mr Seselj gave warning of trouble, predicting the break-up of the Zajedno coalition. Djindjic will rain you," he shouted at Vuk Draskovic, Mr Djindjic's Zajedno partner.

One of the first actions taken by the council yesterday was to order an audit of its Socialist predecessor's books. It also announced a new board of directors, comprising cross-party politicians and journalists, for Studio B, the capital's television station.

Another blow to the Milosevic family was Thursday's assassination of a business associate of the President's son. Marko. Vladen Kovacevic, who owned the "Tref" group of companies. was shot in New Belgrade's



The four murdered young women, who were identified only by their first names, clockwise from top left, Audrey, 17, Isabelle, 20, Peggy, 20, and Amelie, 17



A woman and her daughter weeping at the site near Boulogne where the bodies were found yesterday

#### **Bodies of Boulogne** murder victims found

FROM REUTER IN LILLE

FRENCH police yesterday found the bodies of four young women who went missing during a carnival evening ten days ago in the northern port of Boulogne.

investigators said suspects had confessed to the murder of the women, whose bodies were found concealed at the base of a concrete blockhouse built by German forces during the Second World War in a forest outside the village of Portel, near Boulogne.

The four young women -named only as 20 year-olds

Isabelle and Peggy, and 17year-olds Audrey and Amelie were wearing carnival dresses when they went miss-ing. They were allegedly murdered on the evening following their disappearance, and their bodies were found at Sainte-Cecile-Plage.

Five members of one family were detained by police. The suspects included three brothers, all of them scrap merchants, who live in a village a few miles from the spot where the women were seen for the

# Euro-tax 'fudge' helps Italy towards EMU

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

ITALY was given a helping hand in its uphill struggle to qualify for monetary union yesterday when the European Commission ruled that it was entitled to use a once-off "Euro-tax" to narrow its budget deficit.

Eurostat, the Commission's statistical arm, rejected critics' claims that Rome's special tax amounted to a "fudge" to help it scrape below the budget limit for 1997, set by the Maastricht treaty as a key condition

The decision was applauded by Professor Romano Prodi, the Italian on swapping the lira for the euro when the currency is launched on January 1. 1999. It was greeted with a stony silence in Bonn, where the Finance Ministry would make no comment.

Italy's burning ambition to join economic and monetary union (EMU) at the outset is upsetting German politicians who fear that the consequences of letting the traditionally weak currencies of southern Europe embrace the euro.

Theo Waigel, the German Finance Minister, has warned candidate memcharge that has been indignantly denied by Signor Prodi. German that Bonn, faced with crushing unemployment, will itself be hard-pressed to natch the Maastricht criteria.

While Germany's new travails have prompted speculaton on a possible delay in EMU, they have fed hopes in Italy, Spain and Portugal, that European leaders could ease the rules for the sake of keeping to the timetable. The future euro countries will be chosen by the 15 heads of government at a summit in Britain in little over a year's time. They must also take into account national debt and performance in inflation and interest and exchange rates but the budget deficit is

deemed to be the cardinal test. Eurostat has approved a series of manouevres, including a switch of state pension funds that is helping to narrow the French deficit this year. Yesterday it said the Italian tax, to be levied this year, qualified as a legiti-mate fiscal revenue because it would not be repaid. It also gave the nod to other Italian measures involving railway investment.

In an emotional speech in Rome yesterday, Signor Prodi issued a sharp rebuke to Germany for its rejuctance to accept Italian membership of EMU. "Europe is not just about a currency, it is impossible to think of Europe cut off from its great Latin culture," Signor Prodi said, "German culture cannot represent by itself all of Europe."

#### Mobutu returns to France

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS .

PRESIDENT MOBUTU of Zaire flew back to his holiday villa in the south of France yesterday as South Africa sought to bring together Zairean rebels and government officials for tentative peace talks to end the conflict n eastern Zaire.

Mr Mobutu had an operation for prostate cancer in Switzerland last August. After and France as Zaire slipped closer to anarchy, he finally

Last month he came back to France has welcomed the France for new medical tests and spent a further three weeks in his mansion overlooking the Mediterranean.

During his earlier convales cent periods in the south of France, Mr Mobutu held meetings with various African and French leaders as well as with United Nations officials. but presidential aides did not say whether he was planning any other official contacts

during his current stay.

Zairean leader in the belief that he still has enough authority to bring order to the chaos in his country.
In Cape Town, Ngbanda

Nzambo Ko Ayumba, the Zairean envoy, who is Mr Mobutu's nephew and security adviser, said that Thabo Mbeki, the South African Deputy President, was talk-ing to both sides in the conflict. "South Africa is trying to bring points of view

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# 'Weizman will ask Queen to make state visit to Israel

By Christopher Walker in Jerusalem and Alan Hamilton

THE Queen will be formally. invited to pay her first visit to the Holy Land next week during a three-day state visit to Britain by President Weizman, the first by an Israeli head of state since the country's foundation 49 years ago.

A senior Israeli official said members of the Jewish community in Britain hoped that the visit might be timed to coincide with next year's celebrations to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Jewish

Buckingham Palace said last night that no invitation for the Queen to visit Israel had yet been received, but that if Mr Weizman did invite her to become the first British head of state to make a formal visit to Israel, she would rely on government advice on whether to accept.

Palace sources said that in the past the Queen had received invitations to visit China and Russia, but in both cases she had waited for several years until the political climate in the host country was judged to be suitable. British government sources

said that security would be a prime consideration in any decision to go ahead with a visit to Israel. If she undertook such a visit the Queen, by far the most travelled monarch in history, would be left with the Republic of Ireland as the only significant country in the world that has not formally

received her. Pressure has been growing for the first official royal visit to Israel since the signing of the 1993 peace accord between



Weizman: served with RAF during the war

#### Spitting fine upheld

By Christopher Walker

SPITTING at the sight of the Cross has led to a conviction in an Israeli court.

The judgment received little publicity when it was originally handed down. But on appeal this week, it resulted in the upholding of a two-month suspended prison sentence and a 750 shekel (£150) fine for spitting imposed on a Jew who saw a Cross near the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, built on the spot where many Chris-tians believe Christ was

crucified. The Jerusalem District Court heard that the incident took place on March II, 1995, as a procession of Crossbearing Armenian priests marched from the Armenian Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City towards the Holy Sepulchre. Moshe Arenfeld was accused of spitting on the ground when the procession

passed him. He denied the act. In the original verdict, Judge Yoel Tsaban ruled that spitting in such a context represented a disturbance of religious observance. He argued that "disturbance does not have to be an act that physically prevents the observance of a ritual".

The judge convicted Arenfeld of religious disturbance. The convicted man appealed, contending that the law grants a man the freedom to spit "even when a Cross is

The appeal stated: "It is impossible to ignore the fact that there is a Jewish custom of considering it a mitzvah [a good or charitable deed) to spit" under such circumstances. The appeal court rejected the contention, arguing that freedom of expression ms its limits.

ation Organisation and Israeli officials are confident that previous Foreign Office objections to such a sensitive trip would be overcome. The UK Jewish community feels a royal visit is long overdue," said the Israeli magazine Jerusalem Report.

The strongest hint that the Queen will accept Mr Weizman's invitation — which one diplomat described as a minefield for protocol" - was given in 1995 by John Major, who became only the second serving Prime Minister to visit the Jewish state.

Asked if he would recommend that the Queen take up any future invitation from the Israeli Government, the Prime Minister said: "Prince Phillip paid a very successful visit here [in 1994] and I cannot anticipate decisions Buckingham Palace will take. But I have no doubt that in due course, the Queen will visit."

The Duke of Edinburgh's brief but historic visit to Jerusalem and the Holocaust memorial at Yad Vashem was classified as "private". In 1995, the Prince of Wales made a similarily "private" visit to the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin, the assassinated Prime Minister.

While in London, Mr Weizman, a charismatic former fighter pilot who served with the RAF in Egypt and India during the Second World War, will be guest of honour at a state banquet at Buckingham Palace. He will host a return banquet at Spencer House. Derusalem: Binyamin Net-

anyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, was warned by police he could face judicial procedures in connection with a scandal over a key government appointment, public television said. Three police officers who questioned Mr Netanyahu told him that his statement may be used to bring charges against him, the station said. Earlier, police said that they had enough evidence to bring charges against at least one senior official in the Government, perhaps within the next few



Millions of biscuits end up on the tip yesterday after an extortion threat was received

### Biscuit maker dumps stock

Much of the stock disposed

of at a Sydney dump had also

been damaged when it was cleared hastily last Friday after news of the threat to

plant polsoned biscuits in

Sydney: Australia's biggest biscuit-maker, Arnotts, began dumping millions of packets of biscuits yesterday after an extortion threat that forced it to withdraw its stock

from supermarkets. Arnotis said it believed that none of the packets, removed from shop shelves in Queensland and New South Wales, were contaminated but it wanted to be "ultra-safe".

shops was disclosed, the company said.
This week the police called on the extortionist to contact them by next Monday or they would consider the threat

ended. The extortionist

cuits unless police involved in a 1991 murder case took a lie detector test, adding that police lied in giving evidence that resulted in Ron Thomas serving two life sentences for a double shooting murder he did not commit, Thomas, who says he is

threatened to poison the bis-

innocent, has called on the extortionist to stop his attempt to free him. (Reuter)

#### Texan militia at war with US

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

HIGH in the Davis mountains in western Texas, a militia group is claiming that Texas is a sovereign nation at war with the United States. Residents fear its increasing

campaign of harassment may provoke another Waco, where members of the Branch Davidian cult were killed in a fire at their besieged compound,

Yesterday, Richard McLaren, 43, who calls him-Richard self "Ambassador at Large of the Republic of Texas", was due to appear in court for pretrial hearings on charges of burglary, contempt of court and refusal to stop racketeer-ing. He has said he will defy

the court orders.

The group's decade-long campaign of "paper terrorism", which aims to choke the Texas courts and banking system with a flood of bogus property claims and bad cheques, has become a focus for Texas's thriving separatist movement. However, federal officials have held back from a showdown with Mr McLaren's group, fearing a repetition of the botched intervention at Waco, eastern Texas, four years ago.

The Waco deaths have since become for Texan militia groups a symbol of the evils of government. Timothy Mc-Veigh, the Oklahoma bombing suspect, cited Waco as a reason for his actions and the opening of his trial on March 31 in Colorado is expected to stir separatist sentiment.

From his tin-shed "embassy" Mr McLaren threatens that if there is an attempt to cut off his headquarters, "there will be a military reprisal". He claims that 2,000 men - the "Texas Defence Forces" - are ready to defend the "embassy".

His group has "ordered" George Bush Jr., state Governor, and all state legislators to vacate the capitol building in Austin. More seriously, its "paper war" is costing homeowners and businesses hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees and bad debts. By filing bogus property claims in court, the group has prevented homeowners from selling and forced them to fight court battles to clear their titles.

#### SMENS IN BRIEF Elizabeth **Taylor** recovers

Los Angeles: Elizabeth Taylor was said to be comfortable and recuperating well yester-day after a four-hour operation to remove a tumour from her brain (Giles Whittell writes).

The two-inch growth appeared to be benign but will be analysed in a biopsy to confirm there is no danger of its spreading. Dr Martin Cooper said after the surgery.

#### Sobhraj set free

Delhi: Charles Sobhraj, the notorious thief and murderer. was freed when the prosecution withdrew charges relating to a 1980 jailbreak. He will be deported to his native France. (Reuter)

#### Marine failure

Washington: Riddick Bowe. the former heavyweight champion of the world, was granted permission to leave the US Marine Corps Reserves, on the third day of his training in South Carolina.

#### Two Sunnis held

Multan: Pakistani police said they had arrested two Sunni Muslim militants suspected of attacking an Iranian cultural centre here on Thursday in which eight people were

#### Criminal ranks

Lagos: The majority of police officers here are crooks, Abubakar Tsav. the state's police chief told the government-owned Daily Times. They are robbers in police uniform," he said. (AP)

#### Hostages hope

Lima: Talks to free 72 hostages, held for more than two months, took a step forward when the leader of the hostage-takers left his compound for negotiations on neutral ground for the first time. (AP)

#### 'Unnatural' sex

Oral sex has been declared illegal in Singapore unless it is practised as a prelude to full sex, the island's Court of Appeal ruled. The court said the practice was "against the

# First B52 woman pilot faces sex charge

Los Angeles: In a blow for women seeking greater opportunities in the US Armed Forces, the first female air force pilot qualified to fly America's biggest bombers in combat is to be courtmartialled on charges of adultery and 'fraternisation" (Giles Whittell writes).

First Lieutenant Kelly Flinn, who flies B52 long-range bombers stationed in

dishonourable discharge if found guilty of having an "inappropriate relationship" with someone of a lower rank, an Air Force spokesman said. In the meantime she remains on active duty.

After graduating from the Air Force Academy in 1993, Lieutenant Flinn, whose age has been withheld, was certified to fly the BS2 in combat two years ago. "In the Air Force, my career has pretty much been in a male-dominated field, so being part of a largely male crew is nothing new. We're one team trying to complete a mission and put bombs on target," she said on her appointment.

First flown in the 1950s, the B52s have been frequently refitted to drop conventional bombs on Vietnam and Iraq. Based in Louisiana as well as Minot, they have also been used to launch cruise missiles.

# North Korea ousts Prime Minister in defection 'purge'

By Robert Whymant in Tokyo and Our Foreign Staff

KANG SONG SAN, the North Korean Prime Minister, has been relieved of his post, fuelling speculation that he is the victim of a purge related to the defection of a close adviser to President Kim Jong II, the North Korean

Radio Pyongyang last night reported that Hong Song Nam. 73, the Deputy Prime Minister, has been appointed acting Prime Minister, but gave no reason for the change. In Seoul, a senior official of South Korea's National Unification Board suggested that health problems might explain why Mr Kang, 66, has been replaced. He has not been seen in public since January last year, due to illness, the official said.

The timing of the move has prompted some North Koreawatchers to speculate that the defection this month of Hwang Jang Yop, a high-ranking official, has unleashed a purge within the power structure. Mr Kang is believed to have shared Mr Hwang's view that North Korea could overcome its economic problems and famine only by adopting an open-door policy and reforms similar to those of China.

The two men were therefore vulnerable to attack from hard-liners close to Mr Kim. who argued that the radical reforms they favoured would bring down the regime, according to a senior Japanese government source.

Developments in the Stalinist state are shrouded in mystery, but a power struggle

appears to be under way in the run-up to Mr Kim's formal accession to power, expected later this year. The government source predicts a further shake-out of senior figures in the ruling structure close to Mr Hwang, whose defection came as a shock to the regime.

North Korea has reversed its position and said it will attend preliminary talks in New York to discuss permanent peace on the Korean peninsula. Pyongyang had been threatening to scuttle the proposed talks, involving the United States and China as well as the two Koreas, unless it received badly needed American grain.

Its announced comes after South Korea and the United States promised millions of dollars in food aid but it remains uncertain whether the preliminary negotiations will lead to full peace talks. However, the North's decision is likely to lead to an easing of tensions between North and South Korea. which are still technically at war after their bloody threeyear conflict in the 1950s.

A spokesman for North Korea's Foreign Ministry told North Korea's state-run news agency that his country and the United States held talks recently and agreed to go ahead with the briefing, set for March 5, according to the North Koreans.

On Thursday, South Korea said it would donate \$6 million (£3.7 million) in emergency food aid to North Korea. Washington has said it will donate \$10 million more.



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# Seven rivals 'pose risk to Jiang's hold on power'

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

that tracks foreign leadership

developments, was leaked to

This right-wing newspap

is frequently used as a conduit

by the intelligence agency for

opinions that it wants to

publicise without admitting its

authorship. A CIA spokesman said she could not comment on

Whatever the CIA's motives, the leak could be construed as

a warning, before Mr Jiang's

meeting with President Clinton this year, that China needs

international support and

should not provoke the United

States over the touchy issues of

human rights and the hand-

over of Hong Kong.
The report said that Mr

Jiang was expected to pursue

"less controversial activities"

in an effort to build his own stature as well as China's, in

fact, there has already been an

appreciable warming of Sino-

American relations since the

CIA report was written and

The report identified a key

rival to Mr Jiang as Qiao Shi.

chairman of the National Peo-

ple's Congress, who oversees

national security, the police

and courts. It said he was openly critical of Mr Jiang's

policies towards Taiwan, had

contradicted him in front of

regional Chinese officials and

Mr Clinton was re-elected.

the report.

The Washington Times.

PRESIDENT Jiang Zemin of China has failed to consolidate his grip on power and faces at least seven rivals for influence within the Communist Party, according to a leaked CIA

report yesterday. His shaky control could keep Mr Jiang focused on domestic rather than on global issues, the report said. An American government official familiar with the report said that although Mr Jiang had shown remarkable staying power, the real test of his leadership skills, in the wake of Deng Xiaoping's death, would come at the 15th Congress of the Chinese Communist Party in October.

Without Mr Deng, Mr Jiang faces the curse of Chinese succession. Although he was chosen by the late paramount leader, history is against him. Chairman Mao's handpicked heir, Hua Guofeng, lasted only two years. Even Mr Deng once admitted that for a leader to pick his successor was a "feudal prac-

The secret CIA report, prepared last June, portrayed Mr liang's rivals as trying to limit his power before the party congress, even though he is head of state, general secre-tary of the Communist Party and commander-in-chief. The assessment, by a CIA section

could emerge as "kingmaker for another challenger Other rivals included Li Peng, the Prime Minister, working to undercut Mr Jiang's authority behind the scenes"; Zhu Rongji, the Deputy Prime Minister who disagreed with Mr Jiang over economic policy; and Li Rui-huan, a polithuro member linked with Mr Jiang's critics.

Further potential challengers were said to be Tian Juyun, a political ally of Mr Qiao; Yang Shangkun, 89, a former President who criticised some of Mr Jiang's decisions; and of the National People's Congress who is said to be opposed to Mr Jiang over

#### Deng's death mourned strictly to order

BY JAMES PRINCLE IN BELLING AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AS CHINA entered its first full day of state mourning for Deng Xiaoping yesterday, thousands of official commemorative meetings were held throughout the country by local Communist Party committees, government of fices and state-run org-

in Beijing's Tiananmen Square, police detained a man as he carried a wreath appar-ently dedicated to Mr Deng. He was bundled into a car along with the wreath, on which the words "Deng Xizoping" were written on a ribbon, a witness said.

At Mr Deng's birthplace, thousands of wailing mourners fell to their knees. Armed police were summoned to keep order among the unruly in Paifang village in the remote southwestern province of Sichuan where pilgrims with tear-streaked faces prostrated themselves on the ground. There are a lot of people crying, some of them young, but most of them are older," said an official at Mr Deng's former home, now a

In Chengdu, Sichuan's provincial capital, with its 120 million population, up to 30,000 people gathered on Thursday night to mark the death of their native son, carrying wreaths in white mourning flowers which were



Chinese troops, members of a guard of honour for official ceremonies, lay down arms during a drill at their barracks in Beijing yesterday

through Chengdu's streets carrying tributes to the departed leader, who spoke with a thick Sichuanese accent. and banners bearing the signatures of thousands of mourners.

Witnesses said police had to intervene several times to restore order. The Government dislikes such spontane ous displays that are outside its control.

As portrayed on state tele-

official meetings. Their object was to pay tribute to Mr Deng and his policies and to emphasise the need for China's 1.2 billion population to unite around the leadership of Mr Deng's chosen successor, Jiang Zemin, 70, the party chief, a lacklustre and possibly stopgap figure who is nevertheless constantly re-

spontaneous about any of the

new leadership.

ferred to as the "core" of the

form and are clearly minutely choreographed from Beijing, as an effort to ensure that the party and state apparatus and people at large - stay in line, and thus reduce the danger of trouble that any eous, genuine mourn-

They are terrified of people's human feelings and fear that any outpouring of grief turns dangerous," one envoy

Under black banners read-

in our hearts forever", officials paid tribute to Mr Deng's "achievements" and affirmed their determination to carry out the transformation of China he set in motion, a the economic sphere which liberalisation in politics.

No venues have been set aside for people to pay their last respects to Mr Deng. State media reported last

funeral, though it is believed it was to avoid possible trou-ble. In 1976, when Zhou Enlai, the revered Prime Minister, died, and in 1989, with the death of Hu Yaobang, the deposed party chief, hundreds of demonstrators in Tiananmen Square turned mourning for dead leaders into protests against living ones, and both times troops had to move in to clear the square with loss of life. Tributes, even floral ones, are

bright vince k



Jiang: Beijing congress

Unless...

Quote Reference 1089

# Hong Kong leader threatens street protests

BY MICHAEL BINYON DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE leader of Hong Kong's Demo-crats, Martin Lee QC, threatened civil disobedience yesterday, including illegal street protests, if China insists on introducing draconian laws to curb Hong Kong's Bill of Rights when it takes over the territory.

"This must be one of the ways for

Kong Kong people to express their views," he said. "If the police give us a permit, then we will do it. If they do not, we will do it anyway." His party would refuse to pay any fines they incurred. Mr Lee added that he did not

think he would be arrested because he was too well known abroad. He said, however, that he feared his party colleagues would be.

Speaking in London at the end of a tour of European capitals, Mr Lee said he would challenge the new laws in the courts. If they lost, as he was sure they would once a new law on subversion allowed the authorities to declare illegal anything they disliked, he would continue his opposition to any

cy in Hong Kong.

He said he would not emigrate
before the handover to China in July. "I feel that the Hong Kong people need a

voice. My party is popular because it is the voice of Hong Hong." He said that the moment be left, he would become

The Democrats hold the largest number of seats in the colony's Legislative Council, but none has been selected for the provisional council appointed by Beijing.

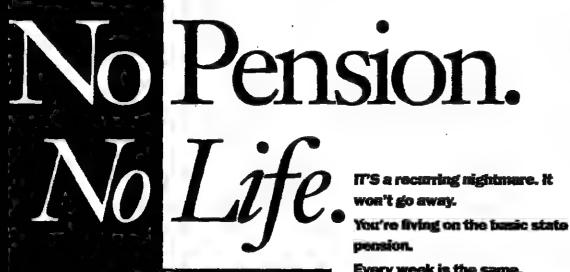
Mr Lee welcomed the announcement by Tung Chee-hwa, the chief executive appointed by China to take over in July, that all civil servants would be asked to stay in their jobs. That was an important signal to the colony. "I am giving him the benefit of the doubt," he said. "If he only says

things to please the Chinese leaders but then quietly does things for Hong Kong, that is the best we can hope for. But there are certain things where you

cannot please both sides."
He criticised Chris Patten, the Governor, for not setting up an independent human rights commission years ago. There was still time for Mr Patten to introduce important reforms, he added - in particular, setting up an independent body to administer legal department. "Do you think after the handover that anyone will be able to



refuse to pay fines



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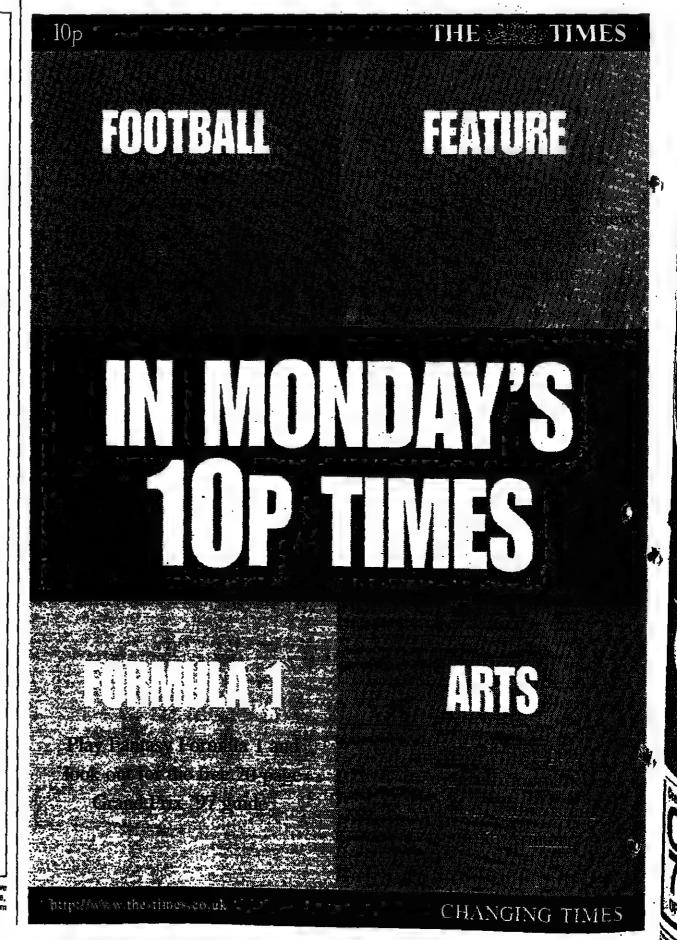
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# Albright fails to convince Kremlin on Nato expansion

FROM ROBIN LODGE IN MOSC

DESPITE American attempts to reassure Moscow that Nato is no longer a threat, Russia remained opposed to the alliance's expansion eastwards at the end of yesterday's talks with Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State.

"We are still negatively disposed," Yevgeni Primakov, the Foreign Minister, said, although Ms Albright said that they had made progress on a charter to link Russia to the alliance. Mr Primakov said that it must be binding on both sides and Ms Albright told reporters that question could be worked out.

"The issues are complex and will require a lot of work," Ms Albright added. "We have established a work plan to get as much of this accomplished as quickly as possible. It is on a fast track."

Sergei Yastrzhembsky, the presidential press secretary, said there were grounds for optimism after the talks, although "it is premature to talk about a breakthrough"..."I would rather say one can

express cautious optimism."

Both sides said the atmosphere of the talks had been good. Mr Primakov, speaking at a joint press conference with Ms Albright, who is regarded in Moscow as much more of a hardliner than her predecesor, Warren Christopher, described the Secretary of State as "not just an iron lady.

but also a very constructive lady". Despite the "negative" disposition towards expansion, "we are doing eveything we can conceivably think of in order to minimise any negative consequences that might arise in the event that Nato does expand," he said.

Television pictures showed Mr Yeltsin clasping Ms Albright's hand warmly as he greeted her in the Kremlin. In an aside to aides at the conference table, he gave a mock warning: "She understands Russian, so we have to be careful what we say."

Ms Albright brought various measures with her to Moscow aimed at softening Russia's stance against the admission of former Warsaw Pact members to Nato, including adjustments to the arms ceilings agreed in the 1990 Conventional Forces in Europe treaty, which Russia has long argued fails to take into account the post-Cold Warsituation, as well as the charter defining relations between Nato and Russia.

She also proposed the setting up of a joint Nato-Russian brigade; to be used chiefly for peacekeeping. Russian officials have made clear that they are unimpressed by that proposal, a point repeated by Mr Yastrzhembsky yesterday: "In the alphabet of our interests it is somewhere close to the first letter of my name," he said.

However, the main thrust of Ms Albright's talks was to try to convince the Russians that Nato enlargement was aimed at enhancing European security within a system that involved partnership and cooperation with Moscow rather than aggression and hostility.

"A cardinal element of the new situation is that it will no longer be a situation of you versus us," she said. "We are on the same side. Nato and Russia have a mutual interest in preventing instability and threats to security in the coming century."

The Russian side is still

The Russian side is still holding out for a legally binding agreement, which would give Moscow some say on future developments as well as setting out limits to the deployment of forces and arms in any new countries to join the alliance.

Nato rejects the notion of a

legally binding document, although it has given Moscow assurances that no nuclear weapons will be deployed on the territory of new membermates.

The Russian leadership, wary of criticism from nationalists at home, is certainly in

no hurry to reach agreement

and eager to wrest as many

concessions as possible from

the alliance before signing any

Magazine, page 8



# Poles fear alliance 'carve-up'

FROM REUTER

THE Polish Prime Minister, Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz, visiting Nato headquarters in Brussels to promote Warsaw's membership plans, warned the big Western powers yesterday not to make a deal with Russia without referring to

other countries.

Madeleine Albright, the US
Secretary of State, said earlier
yesterday that she had made
important progress on a deal
with Russia which is designed
to overcome Moscow's hostil-

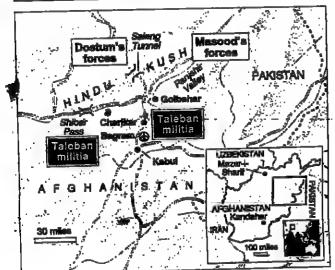
ity to Nato enlargement.

However, Mr Cimoszewicz echoed fears in Eastern Europe and among some Nato allies that the United States and other influential countries might ignore their concerns and push on with a "great power carve-up". Any deal with Moscow, he told the alliance, should be "transparent" and should take into account the concerns of nonmembers. Poland would not accept any deal that would make it a "second-class" member when it joins.

ber when it joins.
"In a system of co-operative security, there is no place for geopolitics, spheres of influence, secret protocols or concerts of great powers," the Prime Minister told ambassadors from the 16 Nato nations. "We trust that our Nato partners share this view. We hope so does Russia."

At a Madrid summit in July, Nato will invite some Eastern European countries, which are widely expected to include Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic, to join the alliance.

# Market panic as Taleban soldiers buy out their enemies



FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS
IN MAZAR-I SHARIF,
NORTHERN APGHANISTAN

KEFAYAT Market, heart of the money machine of northern Afghanistan, sums up the mood of this vast, strategically vital region: fearful, suspicious, and wondering when everything will collapse in another calamity for this devastated country. Eighteen years of war have smashed and finally pacified most of the south, east and west of Afghanistan; now it is the turn of the north to feel the terror of invasion, which

may come next week, in three

months or, improbably, not at all.

The men who deal in sackloads of cash amid the four storeys of screaming chaos that make up Kefayat Market are in panic, their exchange rates doubling and haiving against the dollar as news of war abbe and flows.

The Taleban Islamic army, flush with foreign money and with two-thirds of the country under its control, much of it unhappily, is pressing north towards the final prize the oil and gas-rich provinces controlled by General Rashid Dostum, the Uzbek warlord of the north.

The hunger for news in Mazar-i Sharif, the principal northern city, is

greatest in Kefayat Market, where moneychangers scream over their satellite telephones to Moscow. Tashkent, Peshawar, Kabul and Karachi, changing their exchange rates by the hour.

There are two currencies in Afghanistan, both called the afghani, neither worth more than the paper they are printed on. It is symbolic of the state of Afghanistan that its currencies, hauled around like sacks of vegetables, are backed by nothing. General Dostum prints his own

General Dostum prints his own notes by the truckload, probably in Russia, and Taleban has commandeered money from the Government it ousted from Kabul. They circulate

together, albeit at different rates. Taleban's remarkable advance through Afghanistan was haited north of Kabul in October by the forces of General Dosrum and his ally, Ahmed Shah Masood, the Tajik warlord fighting for survival in his stronghold in the Panjshir Valley. Taleban has gained territory, capturing important towns and taking its forces to the last valley, Shibar Pass, leading to the northern plains and

an open run to Mazar-i Sharif.

Taleban's secret of success is not to fight, but to pay. It bought its way through Afghanistan, paying enemy commanders to step aside and their troops to join up. General Muham-

mad Yusuf, head of the political section of General Dostum's movement, denied in Mazar that Dostum commanders had been bought off.

He also denied that Dostum commanders had been converting their assets into dollars in readiness to move to the safety of the Central Asian republics should Taleban capture Mazar. Neither denial is convincing: the rumours in the money market, the stories told by prominent citizens, all point to the collapse of morale. The currency has soared in value day by day for the past month, so that it takes only a shopping bag, not a lorry, to carry away the equivalent of \$100 (£60).



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# **Key suspects** in Clinton fund scandal invoke right to silence

FROM TOM RHODES AND BRONWEN MADDOX IN

He maintained his depart

House was secretly jubilant.

Asian links to Mr Hubbell, a

former Clinton golfing friend released from jail last week

failed Arkansas land deal.

Pleading "the Fifth" is a

move that is not usually used

unusual step may prove pro-

vocative to congressional

At one time Hillary Clin-

ton's law partner, Mr Hubbell

has been implicated in both

the Whitewater and campaign

finance investigations. He was

ordered to produce documents to Congress about payments that he received from Clinton

allies after he resigned from

the Justice Department amid

the growing Whitewater scan-

dal in 1994. Mr Start had also

been investigating Mr Hub-bell's receipt of \$325,000

(£200,000) in fees from various

investigators.

TWO key suspects in President Clinton's fundraising scandal retreated to the shelter of the American Constitution yesterday, invoking the Fifth Amendment to remain silent.

John Huang, the former Commerce Department official at the centre of the investigations, and Webster Hubbell, the former associate Attorney-General, refused to submit subpoenaed documents to Congress and invoked their privilege against self-incrimination.

However, in a letter to the House government and oversight committee. Mr Huang's lawyer agreed to turn over some documents and signalled that his client, a top Democratic fundraiser before Mr Clinton's re-election last year, may be prepared to cooperate if granted immunity from prosecution.

Their refusal fuels the controversy surrounding Mr Clinton's fundraising practices, the target of multiple investigations which are becoming the scourge of his second term. The White House faces a protracted and embarrassing hearing even though the nemesis of Mr Clinton's first four years ap-



Starr: relief at his



The space shuttle Discovery makes a rare night-time landing at Florida's Kennedy Space Centre yesterday, ending a ten-day mission to complete a \$350 million (£217 million) overhaul of the Hubble Space Telescope. The astronauts made five spacewalks during the mission

### Love letters reveal Fidel's dialectic of romance

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

SIX previously unknown love letters, written more than 40 years ago by Fidel Castro, were published here yesterday for the first time, revealing that big, bad, bearded dictators can

occasionally be great "softies" too.
The letters, obtained from the Cu-Two other central figures in the funding controversy, Charles Yah Lin Trie, a Taiban President's estranged daughter and published in the newspaper ABC, wanese former Arkansas restaurateur, and Pauline were written by Senor Castro to Naty Kanchanalak, a Thai busi-Revuelta, the wife of a Havana doctor nesswoman, have also inwith whom he had a passionate love structed lawyers not to accept

subpoenas from the Senate. Written in 1954 from a prison on Isla The White House said it de Pinos, the letters are an intrig blend of the tender and the didactic. In respected" the decisions one, he pays this awkward compli-ment to his lover. "I keep all your made under advice of counsel but said Mr Clinton wanted "all the facts to come out as letters with me and study them more closely than I would a treatise on

psychology." In another, he orders her not to send him a record player which she wanted to do - as such

"luxury" in jail would "mortify" him. Touchingly, he asks instead for a photograph of Senora Revuelta: "If you do not send me one I will be heartbroken. Why don't you send me more than one? You know I can't see you in person now."

There are some lines of great passion, composed in the styllsed manner of a leader accustomed to giving speeches. "You are a woma Women are the most delicate of all creatures in this world. My companntiment in the future, in every minute and in a lifetime, you are in the most intimate recess of my heart, where I venerate

you and hold you sacred."

lovers never tire of kissing. There are phrases that are like kisses, like honey that never cloys. This for me is the secret of your letters. They are all delightful, giving me a pleasure of which I never tire. And they are all varied, like the stars, which shine with a different light each night."
There is also, sometimes, a boyish

flavour."Do you really love me? Swear to mel Even more than I do you?" he

"Promise me that my letters don't bore you!" He chides his lover, though, for using a typewriter: "Haven't I told you machine? If that takes too much time, I won't mind if your letters are shorter. But I do love your delicate handwrit-

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addressing him as amigo and not as Fidel. Inevitably, though, Señor Castro's politics intrude, often with a great clang. Sentences after writing of his love for Señora Revuelta, he rages against "injustice", demanding that the State "triple taxes on the rich ... and all those who wallow in luxury". In describing his daily routine, his reading habits are revealed as rather

predictable: "I lie down in bed every night at 11, and read Karl Marx till I fall asleep."

in his penaltimate missive from prison, he writes the following, almost as if it were a caricature of a love letter from a jailed revolutionary: "I believe antithesis and synthesis — just like a revolution, which would not exist

Exclusive screenings

Leading article, page 23

# by exiles' planned fly-past Havana

CUBAN exiles are once again on a collision course with the Government of Fidel Castro over plans for a group of airplanes to mark the anniversary on Monday of the deaths of four Miami aviators shot

down a year ago.
American officials say they have briefed Havana on the peaceful intentions of a fleet of 5 aircraft which plan to drop wreaths over the Straits of Florida near the spot where Cuban MiGs shot down two civilian planes, killing all on

But Cuba is not happy with the event, which it regards as an act of political provocation. and warned that it "will not permit any type of violation of

Washington has told Cuban exiles to watch their step and to stay well outside Cuba's 12mile territorial limits. American officials are especially alarmed by exiles' plans to fly two former Royal Air Force Provost jet trainers, still bearing British military markings. Officials said the 1950s turbo jet planes, which are collectors items normally exhibited at air shows, may be subject to a restriction limiting them to an area no more than 44 miles

south of the Florida Keys, well short of the site for Monday's peremony. Just in case, US officials plan to monitor the straits with satellite and radar to avoid another confrontation with Cuban warplanes.

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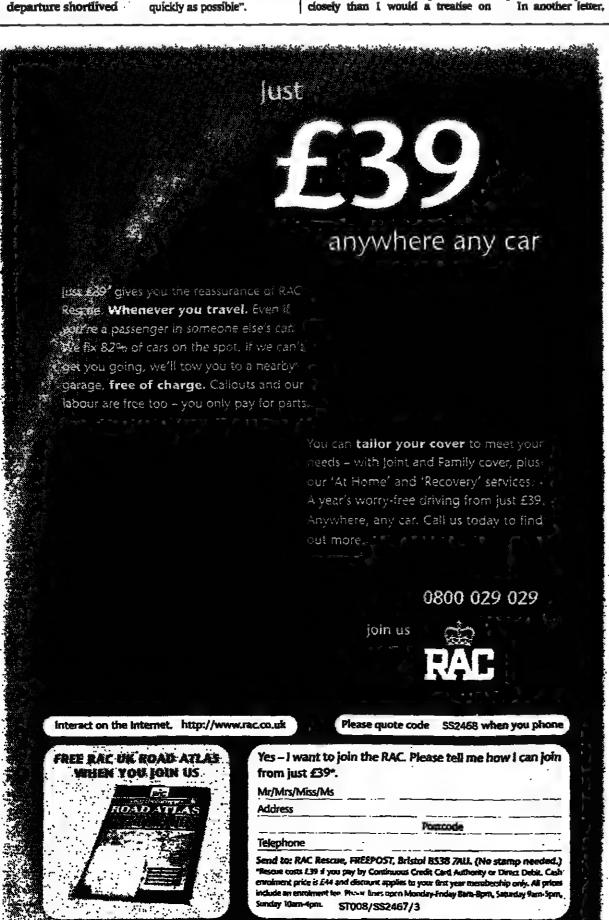
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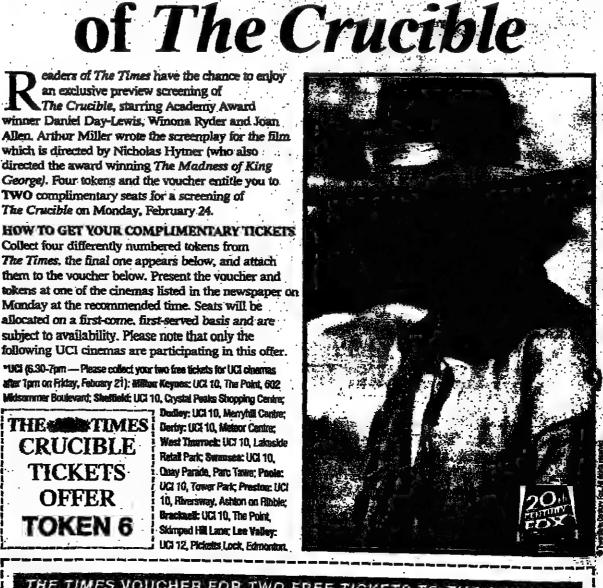
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The US Atlantic Command also has 30 warships and 100 aircraft currently undergoing military exercises in the Caribbean. However, at the Pentagon, Ken Bacon, a Defenor spokesman, said the US military did not "plan any differalerts on February 24".

The incident last year plunged US Cuban relations back into a Cold War freeze which shows no signs of warming, and also resulted in an ongoing trade dispute beton over American efforts to extend the reach of its economic embargo against Cuba to





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Havana angered by exiler planned fly-pag

# Sweden's welfare ministers fight shy of rendezvous with monetary union

# Eurosceptic women run the show in Amazonia

breed of women politicians.

She did not go to university and rose quickly through the

ranks of the Social Democrat-

ic Party: she was elected to parliament at 23.

ried mother and during the

week her son, Pontus, five, is

cared for by her partner, an unemployed chef. Opposition

deputies sneer that she cannot

be much of an Employment

Minister if she is unable even

to find a job for the man she

"Since there is not a great demand for full-time restau-

rant chefs, my partner is studying maths and computer

sciences to improve his pros-

many thousands on training

schemes who, added together

with the registered uncon-

nine-year old at the local

school, takes her 16-month-

old toddler son to the day-care

centre and then enters her

He is, in short, one of the

lives with.

Miss Messing is an unmar-

THERE is a British lager lout view of Swedish women which traces a route from the bouncy actresses in I Am Curious - Yellow, through Britt Ekland to Ulrika Johnsson, the Gladiator star.

The cliches centre on Nordic blondeness and a certain lithe athleticism. Well, there are still blondes in Sweden, but the news is that they now run the country and a good many of them are trying to steer the Government away from a rendezvous with European monetary union.

An oddity of the Swedish

Cabinet is that exactly half its members are women and they occupy li far from marginal portfolios: foreign af-fairs, agriculture, employ-ment, social welfare, health, justice, transport and environment among them. One woman, Mona Sahlin, 39, narrowly missed becoming Prime Minister last year she used her government credit card to buy nappies and chocolate for her children and another is deputy head of the trade union congress. The public services union is led by a woman. Amazonia has taken over in the north.

posts occupied by women re- profile is typical for the new

**BOYES** late directly to the welfare state, which is being pared back in the rush to meet the

STOCKHOLM FILE

by ROGER

and are reluctant to depart of "wait and see" on the euro. A scattered few, such as the enthusiasts. But, in common with the women running the trade unions and ordinary Swedish female voters, many are quietly hostile. Only if a

n over in the north.

Since most of the Cabinet intermber of the Cabinet. Her

flick through his communica-

Open government

NOT many British politicians, one suspects, could survive the Swedish system of government. Public scrutiny of credit card receipts toppled the Social Democrat crown princess Mona Sahlin. Under Swedish law anyone is tions with President Clinton allowed to read the Prime or European leaders.

Maastricht criteria for EMU. it is not surprising that female

ministers are among the most Eurosceptical. Some owe their appointments directly to Goran Persson, the Prime Minister, publicly from the official line Agriculture Minister are

solid case can be made for the job-creating merits of the euro will the mood shift. Ulrica Messing plays a pivotal role in this calculation. She is the Employment Min-

ployed, bring Sweden's jobss rate to 13 per cent. The growing influence of women on the political system has forced the Government to overhaul its working meth-ods. Margot Wallstrom, the Minister's incoming and out-Minister of Culture, 40, congoing mail. A few letters to statesmen and on matters of security are classified, but it is quite legal to visit the Prime ducts most of her departmental business from home in Karlstad, 190 miles south of Stockholm. She drops off her Minister's mail room and

vants in Stockholm. Working with document scanners. moderns and television monitors, she keeps up this rhythm from Thursday night until Tuesday lunchtime when she travels to Stockholm for Cabinet meetings or embarks on

foreign trips. The reason for this unusual work pattern is the death of her threeday-old son five years ago. The death, she says, made her change her priorities but did not diminish her political ambitions, "My youngest son does not understand the job I do. All he cares about is whether I am there to put him to bed."

The slow conversion of Sweden into an Amazonian state has also made the country think more deeply about what constitutes political suc-

Ms Sahlin's meteorie rise in the Social Democratic Party - from a drifting dishwasher with no school-leaving certificate to prime ministerial candidate -- came unstuck over money. Yet Gudrun Schymann, the head of the Left Party, turned up visibly drunk at many critical political meetings and slurred her way through conference speeches without an eyebrow being raised. Eventually she went to a clinic to dry out and is now back firmly in charge

of her party. be: women voters feel sympathy for women politicians with health problems, but are the most censorious if there is



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Mona Sahlin, who narrowly missed becoming Prime Minister after she was censured for using her government credit card to buy chocolate for her children

#### Ice worm eats into Denmark

DENMARK is in the midst of a fierce debate about an ice-worm. That was the code project to make Greenland into a huge nuclear base capable of wiping out much of the Soviet arsenal during the Cold War.

After the building of the Berlin Wall and the Cuba missile crisis in the 1960s, the Pentagon came up with with the idea of building a system of tunnels 312 miles cast of the American airbase in Thule on Greenland. There would be firing ramps for 600 medium-range nuclear missiles which, soaring over the North Pole, could have reached 80 per cent of the strategic targets in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

The scope was huge: 2,500 miles of piping was supposed to be laid under the Green-land ice: 11.000 American technicians were earmarked for Project Ice-Worm; and the cost was estimated at \$2.4

The base was never built but the revelations — by the Danish Foreign Policy Institute - have rattled Copenhagen. Since the war governments have assured Danes that, despite Nato membership, nuclear weapons would never be stationed in Denmark.

Yet the United States app ears to have had nuclearequipped aircraft in Thule one crashed in 1968. Danes are angry that past govern-ments could have let themselves in for this kind of blindfolded membership of Nato and are wondering how many more secrets are hid-

# Danish leader quits over drink driving

HANS ENGELL, the Danish Conservative leader, resigned as party chairman lound to have broken drink driving limits, "I have made a serious mistake and must take the consequences. We stand

ahead of a decisive political period with

several elections ahead and there must be

no doubt about the party's prime ministe-rial candidate," he said in a statement. Although his party commands less electoral support than the main opposi-

tion Liberals, he was seen as a potential candidate for Prime Minister if a centreright government were returned to power. In the accident, Mr Engell swerved off

the Copenhagen-Elsinore motorway and hit a lamppost, leaving his car a wreck, and injuring himself superficially. Nohody else was involved. Police breathalised him and found him to be well over the legal limit.

A former journalist, Mr Engell, 48, was a former justice minister. He is to remain leader of the parliamentary Conservative group. Political commentators point to Anne Birgitte Lundholdt, the party's political spokeswoman and a former energy and industry minister, as a likely

#### Dead boar too 'hot' for French hunters

FROM BEN MACINTYRE

THE ancient sport of wild boar hunting, enjoyed by danger-loving French kings peasants for centuries, has become potentially even more perilous with the discovery that a beast killed recently in eastern France was highly radioactive.

A group of huntsmen in the forest of Saint-Jean d'Ormont in the Vosges region bagged six wild boar on December 8 last year, one of which was found, after testing, to have three times the highest accepted safe level of radioactivity.

The radioactive cloud from Chernobyl passed directly over the region in 1986, and every year since, the French Ministry of Agriculture has carried out extensive tests on milk, water, mushrooms, and other local produce. Until this week, the ministry's tests had shown no abnormal rise in ery of the radioactive wild boar has raised fresh fears that lingering contamination from the Ukrainian nuclear disaster may be worse than

supposed.
Two experts from the French Office of Protection from Radioactivity were dispatched to the Vosges this week to carry out further tests on the suspect wild boar or sanglier meat to try to deter-

The discovery of the radioactive boar was fortuitous. "A hunter gave a piece of wild boar to a friend in the veterinary services, who carried out own tests without telling us," Christian Demange, the Mayor of the nearby town of Saint-Dié, who was one of the hunters, said. Experts at the Independent

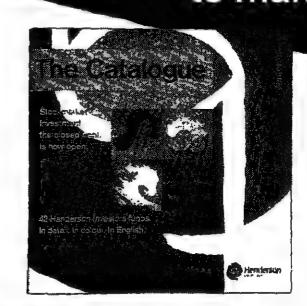
Centre for Research into Radioactivity in Paris said the levels of caesium-137 and caesium-134 found in the meat Chernobyl cloud". The sanglier is the basis of

some of France's most famed dishes, as well as wild boar pâté, but researchers insisted that boar hunters are still more likely to be gored than poisoned by the beasts. At this level of contamina-

ion, a fully grown wild boar weighing 340 lb would have to be consumed before exceeding the recommended health limit, an achievement of which only the cartoon boar hunter Obelix the Gaul would be capable.

"They ran very fast," Monsieur Demange said of last December's boar hunt. "Now I know why. They were

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OPERA

Mobile phones and cameras find their way into English Touring Opera's production of The



CONCERT

as Michael Tilson Thomas and the LSO





ON MONDAY

Melvyn Bragg in praise of one of the greatest institutions in the land: the



ON MONDAY

onto the TV screen

MICHAEL Tilson Thomas revealed on Thursday the first panel of his triptych of beautifully ordered programmes celebrating Debussy - Painter of Dreams, part of Radio 3's vast tribute to the music of our time, Sounding the Century

modern music — and La Mer framed an evening of less frequently heard solo-orientared works. Yet, already within Nocturnes the solitary voices were there. Tilson Thomas's cueing of several of the London Symphony Orchestra's wind and brass princiemphasis on the orchestra as a band of soloists in this music, teasing out the illusion of improvisation.

though, was anothema to Debussy, and both his Rhapsody for Clarinet and the Rhapsody for Saxophone and Orchestra were wheedled out of him in

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Marriage of Figaro

Hidden surprises celebrate Debussy at the Barbican

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How four of the most enterprising West End hits of recent years have found their way

#### Canvas of note

LSO/Tilson Thomas

spite of himself. The first was

Andrew Marriner's imaginative clarinet playing took his Rhapsody far beyond the virtuoso testing grounds. And John Harle relished both the haunting calls and replies to his orchestral woodwind coi-

leagues, as well as the Moorish arabesques cued in by the rattle of a tambourine. The saxophone, though, remained underexploited. Not so the human voice in the Trois

evening, though, was the LSO's understated performance of Berceuse Héroique: the contradiction within its title reflecting the unease with which Debussy fulfilled this commission for the war effort in 1914. Britten surely remembered its dark harp and cello sonorities and its tremulous string chords when he pondered the images of this war in the aftermath of a conflict Techno crass

ing than in a railway carriage, and that is on the operatic stage. It is becoming every bit as common in one as in the other, and in the latter it seems to serve as a talisman to reassure everyone concerned — director, audience and sponsors - that here is a produc-tion which will be regularly accessible, comprehensible communicative: a veritable one-to-one, no less.

English Touring Opera have also fallen for the old trick. At the Cambridge Arts Theatre, Figaro and Susanna, are summoned by one; Bartolo

of Figaro Cambridge

OPERA IN CAMBRIDGE AND LONDON

addresses his first aria to one. Basilio, in case you were wondering, is a pimp who teaches aerobics (although they don't do a lot for his vocal muscle): the Count a highclass photographer (more Kookai than Snowdon); Susanna the new model/PA he

Cherubino hang around, try-ing to fit rather awkwardly into the general plan of things, while the Countess watches a video of Stephen Medcalf's

Medcalf, by the way, directs this Figaro too. He has doctored Amanda Holden's translation to accommodate words such as "Prozac", and "the Count's floozy". That is the description of Susanna — and And herein lies the pity. For

There was little to complain about

musically, though: the wise and experi-

enced Diego Masson led the willing

College Symphony Orchestra through as

lean and sprightly accounts of Satie's Parade (1917) and Stravinsky's Oedipus

Rex (1927) as the hall's resonant acoustics

allowed (the typewriter was inaudible in

the Satie, although the pistol shots rang

There was no attempt at the historical

in Parade (Picasso, constructivist costumes and so on), probably wisely: the

young dancers performed amiable, defi-

by Mark Baldwin that was as anony

Things started to go wrong with Julia

Hollander's production of Poulenc's La

Voix humaine (1959). The orchestra-

mous as their costumes.

out bravely).

HILARY FINCH Matthew Hargreaves and Anna-Clare Monk in Figuro

Medcalf's camera.

details of this production lies a

vacuum of characterisation

and idea. Susanna la pert.

Monk) remains a floory -

which is not quite what Mozart's music would have us

believe. The dark complexity

of the relationship between the Count and Countess is drawn

only sketchily: what a missed opportunity with an elegant-

mahogany baritone such as

Riccardo Simonetti's, and art-

istry of real substance and

maturity within the burnished

your way - to Poole next

week, on to Brighton, and then

to 13 more destinations be-

tween now and May - enjoy Matthew Hargreaver's resonant Figaro, Michelle Wal-

ton's full-voiced Cherubino

and Andrew Greenwood's

lively pacing in the pit. But

remember, there is a lot more

to it than meets the lens of

But when this Figure comes

soprano of Elena Ferrari.

soubrettish Anna-Clare

Hidden talents

> **Trinity College of Music** Camden Centre, NWI

remained on stage, with the acting area down the middle of the hall and seats to either side. Since Julie Leyland spent much of the time on the floor, and was encouraged to sing while on it, she remained invisible (and indeed inaudible) to most of the audience for long stretches. Video cameras occasionally supplied close-ups of her feet on tiny us — not wildly belpful. Had she been on a rustrum in front of the orchestra, Leyland - whose bright, creamy soprano and vibrant presence promise much - might have been able to give a performance to remember. If the

conductor. Dominic Wheeler, overwhelmed her too often, it was not altogether his fault.

Wiennes

OFFER THE MEN

MISA FIREITT LIFE

Hollander's messy staging of the Stravinsky was jam-packed with "ideas". Jocasta had one --- or was it two? --- alter egos. Creon had outsize hands but, since he was in the balcony, half the audience couldn't see him. We were treated to a slide-show of river views. The Narrator, giving a fair impersonation of Virginia Bottomley, donned Jocasta's frock and went off with Oedipus in a false happy end. Video cameras supplied arty little freezes, Gosh,

In an ideal world, directors of students would ensure that their charges are both visible and audible, then start having "ideas". Two. however, showed great promise the bass Pauls Putnins as Tiresias (fruity sound, imposing presence) and Rebecca Smith (Jocasta), a spirited spinto in the making. The title role is a killer for # young singer, and 'Senn Bramley coped with it Glenn Brainley coped

RODNEY MILNES

CONCERT

Barbican/Radio 3

written as a competition piece for conservatoire students: and the second as a response to a persistent American lady who had been prescribed the saxophone as relief for respiratory problems.

Ballades de François Villon. The Swedish baritone Peter Mattei's grasp of Debussy's recreation of the medieval archaism of these texts was total. He brightly animated each word of the opening lovesong, and the prayer to the Virgin found a new translucency in his voice.

The real revelation of the

Debussy was never to see.

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The Marriage

has his eyes and hands on. Meanwhile, Figaro and

it is taken at its word.

THERE were too many instances of the wilful mishandling of young artists in the Trinity College of Music's triple bill of works inspired by Cocteau, a potentially engaging evening mounted in collabor-ation with the London Contemporary Dance School and the Rose Bruford 454 YEAR College at the Camden Centre.

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OPINION Classical CDs: it's not the quantity that counts these days, its

the quality



Sixties director Sam Fuller is alive and well and living in Paris, and the subject of a Channel 4 season

THE



THEATRE Only towards the end of Mick Mahoney's Swaggers does a proper stage play start to emerge



From Peter Bowles in the West End to the big pop concerts: all the top attractions are in The Directory

GOING OUT

there are few sights more distressing than that of a record company fat cat shouting about how much dosh he has made from selling pap to guilible lods. But put that snob-bish distaste on hold, you unpatriotic lot! This week it is British fat cats who are strutting and preening. New figures reveal that our pop songs are doing for British exports what the Spice Girls do for my tired old ticker. CD sales are booming. Profits are up, up, up. Across the globe, Britannia rules

the airwaves. lt's all good news, then? Well, apparently not. In Britain no silver lining comes without a cloud, and this cloud hangs over classical music. Even as the pop moguls hand round the champagne and obligatory spliffs at the Brits Awards on Monday, the classical music world will be shrouded in Gönerdämmerung gloom. Classical albums, it seems, now

account for just 7.5 per cent of CD sales. True, they never did great business. The worry today, how-

Spice Girls sell, but noble they're not so much as the quality. Aside from celebrity discs (Bathtime with Placido and suchlike) and cult

records such as Gorecki's Third Symphony that are plugged incessantly on Classic FM, the only classical CDs now selling well are compilations: repackaged tibits from old recordings. For new, full-price CDs of mainstream repertoire there is almost no demand. Everything has been recorded, perfectly, 12 times already.

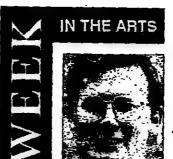
That didn't matter in the days when record companies were run by cultured people. It was accepted that profits from pop songs would cross-subsidise classical records. Pop brought cash, classics brought prestige: that was the theory.

Alas, such benign management was long ago flushed out of the big record companies. Hard-nosed

make handsome profits or be axed. It's a regrettable change of attitude, because by subsidising classical CDs the record business was doing its bit to support orchestral and choral life. But the change is here to stay.

So is the classical music world crumbling as a result? It is easy to jump to this conclusion, Indeed, one British journalist has made a career out of writing the obituary of orchestral life, over and over again. And prophecies of doom are often self-fulfilling. If enough people become convinced that classical music is dying, it will.

Yet I believe that classical music has a great future. Am I mad? Probably. But consider this: first, although the major record companies may have given up on the classics, plenty of independents are filling the gap. By using little-



**RICHARD MORRISON** 

known performers and pricing their CDs sensibly, brilliant labels such as Naxos are achieving phenomenal sales.

And the incidental fact that

performets no longer enjoy the endorsement of big record com-panies is no bad thing. For years they have been charging grossly inflated performance fees on the strength of their supposed crowdpulling, CD-selling powers. Now that this charade is exposed, our opera houses and orchestras should boldly negotiate much lower fees, cut ticket prices, and attract younger audiences.
Secondly, Britain's concert life

now is incomparably richer than it was in any mythical "golden age". Think back just 30 years. London had no Barbican or Queen Elizabeth Hall, Birmingham no Symphony Hall, Manchester no Bridgewater Hall, Glasgow no Royal Concert Hall, Ulster no Waterfront, Poole no Arts Centre, Snape no Maltings ... you can fill in the rest. Classical music was stuffily presented for a few hours a day on Radio 3; now it comes round the clock on both Radio 3 and Classic FM. The great British youth orchestra movement had barely begun; now it is a national glory. And so on. I am not complacent; but any theory that classical music in Britain is retreating in tatters is demonstrably bonkers.

Thirdly, the CD will not be the predominant musical medium for much longer. Classical musicians should be thinking five years into the future - when films, concerts, operas and ballets are piped into every home and school through the Internet or digital TV. The first orchestras quick-witted enough to exploit this potentially vast market will hit a jackpot bigger than anything scooped during the boom years of stereo recording.

Finally, orchestras have a poten-

tial ace to play, and it is this. The pop business largely reduces music to "product" and us, the public, to the status of passive imbibers, required only to buy CDs and play them. By contrast, the most exciting trend in the orchestral world is to involve schools, indeed whole communities, as creative partners. The aim is to remind people that it is more rewarding to be a music-maker than a mere music-consumer. And that task is an increasingly crucial one, because in our materialist age the overwhelming pressure is all the other way: for the public to buy more and more, and do less and less.

Of course classical musicians can never beat pop groups in the commercial marketplace. But why should they? Who says that music's value can be measured only on a balance sheet? Classical musicians should stop fretting about dubious statistics. The noble ideals and aspirations which made them take up music in the first place are more relevant today than ever.

# It's all Viennese, cross my jam

IF YOU feel like believing what Mick Mahoney has to say about London villains, you can try out his rhyming slang on the next likely lad you want to postpone dealing with, "Moon," you say, and he will know this is short for mooncrater, ie, "later". If he stares back as blankly as the Moon itself, then either he or Mahoney are having you on. mate. Or "five-bar", as they may well say down at Kojak's or wherever the mob are hanging out these days. Me, I wink Mick's definitely got his

tongue in his bubble.

This is his tenth play, the first for quite a while, but back in the early Eighties he was churning them out, raw slices of street life that earned him accolades for telling it like it is. For all I know, Nance and Dee and John (known as "the great Moonie"), who work in a swag shop run by Michael and Tess, are all accurately telling it like it is roday. It just sounds too much, that's all I'm saying,

cross my jam. A swagger deals in take designer clothes and perfumes, and as Michael also deals in stolen software this takes him into areas where you don't want to be slow in paying what you owe. I mean, the Baileys aren't the sort of people you cross at all, let alone lightly. The great Moonie has just come out of jail and is sleeping on the premises. Peter Hugo Daly plays him as a shambolic sort of character, but possessed of THE WIFE

**Swaggers** BAC, SWII

a watchful eye and a permanent broken smile that must be seriously traumatising his facial muscles. He's actually some kind of murderer, but basically the hero.

Dee (Carol Harrison) and her niece Nance (Rhona Mitra, utterly riveting in red plastic) belong to a criminal aristocracy that goes back 150 years, so why they demean themselves with the likes of Michael or Tess (Rupert Parley, Helena Cullinani I never understood. But there was a great deal I failed to understand, even when I had picked my way to the end of a slengpacked sentence and worked out the gist. Mahoney seems to have based his play's structure on television some; lots of aggro, voices raised, quick

When the storylines began cohering towards the end a stage play started to emerge the scraps. I specially liked Dee's "I want to be loved! I want big arguments in Ikeal" It didn't sound real, but then the more Mahoney, who also directs, aimed for the real the more false it sounded. Or the more Viennese, as they probably say at Kojak's.

JEREMY KINGSTON

# Madness in Fuller's earth

W. Stephen Gilbert on a

Sixties film guru getting the TV

treatment

The first time I saw Shock Corridor was at a late show at the Screen on Islington Green way back in the early Seventies. The queue stretched into and up Upper Street. By the time we got in, the audito-rium was chock-full so we found ourselves squatting four deep on the floor ahead of the

front row of the stalls. Made in 1963, the movie was what we then were apt to call "a blast", it just took you by the scruff and shook you until you yelled for mercy.

Shock Corridor is the six-

teenth of the 23 movies made by Samuel Fuller, Born in 1911. Fuller is alive, pretty well, living in Paris and one of the last few survivors of the buccaneering tradition of moviemaking that died out in the Sixties. He has been a true auteur, customarily taking the credit "written, produced and directed by", even when working within the Hollywood studio system.

Though filming for Zanuck at Fox and Cohn at Columbia, Fuller chose to keep it small. tight and cheap. Most of his movies run under 90 minutes and were made inside a month. Many of his scenes are taken all in a single shot, requiring from him the discipline of paring scripts to the bone and of editing that never holds a scene beyond its use to

Stephen Frears, who keeps one directorial foot in Hollywood, acknowledges Fuller's inspiration in trying to maintain such a balance. "He wasn't going to do what they told him because that would have bored him." he says, "but he needed the system to make his films. That's what we all want to do, to be in and out of



Sam Fuller, the master at making the most film for the least money, whose work is the subject of a new Channel 4 series and introductory documentary

it at the same time. That's why people like Marty revere him." Marty - Martin Scorsese -

is among several contemporary American movie-makers who talk warmly and analytically about Fuller in a documentary, The Typewriter, the Rifle and the Movie Camera, which will introduce a Channel 4 late-night season of nine Fuller classics. Shock Corridor ends the run, on March 26. The opener is Park Row, a masterpiece not seen on any screen for two decades.

Park Row is a thrilling. moving, hugely dynamic story of "the birthplace and graveyard of great headlines". Fuller's fifth movie, it is his most excitingly realised, with pell-mell travelling shots up and down the studio-built street and his trademark crane shots that abruptly give a

(false) sense of opulence. That's how you learn to make films cheaply," explains Frears. "Don't muck about. Then, when you can, do a great shot. If you shoot a scene in one, you can ride the schedule. Once you get behind, your back's to the wall."

The downside of low-budget filming is that you often have to accept humdrum perfor-mances. Fuller only once worked with a true headlining star - Barbara Stanwyck in Forty Guns - and cunningly he holds back her first dialogue scene for almost 20 minutes. But many seconddivision players found that Fuller characters raised their own game: Robert Stack in House of Bamboo, Cliff Rob-erison in Underworld USA and, along with Richard Widmark, Thelma Ritter, who was never finer than in Fuller's Pickup on South

Fuller's speech (to fellow film-maker Tim Robbins) veers between the sharp and the plain loopy. He clearly enjoys playing the guru. The producer of Trainspotting, Andrew Macdonald, kept a video diary at the Edinburgh Film Festival the year Fuller was a guest, and old Sam gave Macdonald and his writer John Hodge hours of interview and free advice about their unrealised project that would become Shallow Grave. And he cautioned them on handling Hollywood: Don't worry about the ageing blondes clinging on to you at

what you want to make."

Fuller's own preoccupations -- orientalism, the conduct of war and the late of war veterans, race hatred, the rehabilitation of prostitutes, organised crime - make him in varying degrees unfashionable, but his broad themes and qualities - energy, revenge, redemption, betrayal, creatity - are as urgent as ever.

Perhaps the madness in

Fuller's work speaks most directly to us. In Shock Corridor, a crusading journalist puts his own sanity on the line and gets himself incarcerated in a mental institution. Andrew Macdonald reports that he, Hodge and the director Danny Boyle have been asked by both Paramount and Disney to remake this extraordinary picture, "because of the

doctors angle, I imagine". As it happens, when they were talking to the guru, Macdonald found a video of Shock Carridar at John Menzies, bought it and got Fuller to sign it. You could say Fuller's signature is on a lot of contemporary young independent filmmaking.

Channel 4's Sam Fuller season begins on Tuesday night

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CHANGING TIMES

# How many times have you wished you could read music?

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# The rich do not need new planning orders to help them build grand houses — but owners of older piles are struggling

The end was nigh. The medieval house was as down-atheel as its ancestral owner. But Miss Matilda Talbot of Lacock Abbey could not resist her love of entertaining. Her "hops" in the great hall on winter evenings could not be refused without offence. She combed Wiltshire for young ladies, who came "exceptionally plain and utterly speechless". As James Lees-Milne recalls in his diary, To an ancient gramophone which required winding every two minutes. we danced the Roger de Coverley while the fog swirled against the Gothick windows, and indoors a green yule log emitted such dense smoke that the guests were blinded

In the 1930s, the stately homes of England were collapsing into the arms of the National Trust or Mother Ruin. Deserted by their inheritors, crippled by debt, the servants dead or fled, the silver sold, they faced extinction. One by one, they were demolished, institutionalised or nationalised. For half a century, that has been their perceived fate. To take on a stately home, let alone to build a new one, has been

seen as a clear sign of madness. Yet last week an intriguing pas-sage appeared in a dry Whitehall document called PPG7 (Revised). which Britain is truly governed.

# Stately homes of England in the lurch

than a hundred subsidies, policy initiatives and short-term gimmicks emanating from Downing Street. Yet they pass by unnoticed in the Westminster chatter. The country they govern is one which Westminster rarely visits, namely provincial Britain.

It was a previous PPG, issued by Nicholas Ridley, that spawned the out-of-town shopping centres, cara-van sites and bungalow estates that are ruining more British landscape than anything since the suburban sprawl before the last war. Planners and inspectors were encouraged to ignore town centre shopping, consume countryside and pour traffic onto rural roads. The Ridley document is recognised to have been a catastrophe, but the damage is done. The new guidance, from John

Gummer, cannot undo this damage. But it wants new country development to avoid such spoliation. It worries over design and seeks to rectify some of the ugliness associated with modern farming. Countryside should be respected and "isolated houses" avoided. So far so good. However, and this brings us back to Lacock, some isolated houses are a good thing. A new

tradition of the Country House which has done so much to enhance the English countryside". Such a house must be "clearly of the highest quality, truly outstanding in terms of its architecture and landscape design". As he yearns to be progenitor of new cathedrals and new bridges. Mr Gummer yearns also for new stately homes.

My first thought is that ministers crave landed-gentry status after the election. As they salivate over the options flowing from post-privatisation directorships, they already plan the barony and the Barsetshire estate. A neo-Wrennaissance pile by Quinlan Terry in the Cotswolds would do nicely. But PPG7 must not stand in the way. Hence Mr Gummer's little easement.

This is all most odd, Large country houses are still being built in England. The architectural historian, John Martin Robinson, estimates that 400 substantial "country houses" have been built in England since the war, with no help from PPG7. Architects such as Julian Bicknell, John Outram, Denys Lasdun. Robert Adam and Quinlan Terry have designed them. Families such as Getty, Rausing, de Ferranti,

have immolated the requisite fortunes. The houses may not rank with Blenheims. Nobody today wants a hundred bedrooms and everyone wants privacy. But these houses have rescued the English countryside from golf courses, agribusinesses or worse fates. They are welcome and they are

happening.

Mr Gummer's help is needed elsewhere on this from. It is in rescuing the 150 or so existing big houses in England and Wales at imminent risk of dereliction. They and their parks (catalogued by Save Britain's Heritage) are desperate for salva-tion, and without anyone needing to seize existing countryside for new building. They include Thoresby Hall in Nottinghamshire, Astley

Poltismore House in Devon, Gibside in Durham, Downe Hall, a Palladian mansion in Dorset whose park is on the brink of becoming a housing estate. Mr Gummer might attend to Tortworth Court in Gloucestershire, by his favourite architect, Samuel Teulon.

The National Trust has exhausted its ability to come to the aid of such casualties. The emphasis is back on the private sector. This sector needs no help in building new buildings, but suffers extraordinary govern-ment hostility in sulvaging old ones. Mr Gummer still imposes VAT on repairs to old buildings, while lifting it from new ones. Grants to restore private houses have been curtailed. Private owners cannot receive lottery money. Running a stately home is to endure a fiercely discriminatory

that is most astonishing about the past 50 years is not the rescue by public authorities of so many doomed great houses. It is that devoted private owners have stepped forward (or stayed on) to prop up the rest. I can think of nothing bleaker than spend-

deserted, its children gone, help im-possible to find, the weekdays long and lonely. Yet flip through the official Historic Houses Guide and you can reel off the names of the wealthy, the dedicated, the eccentric and the mad who have picked up the banner of stately home ownership and carried on the fight.

There are the Cobhams of Hagley, the Comptons of Newby, the How-ards of Castle Howard, the Phillips of Kentwell, the Seymours of Thrumpton, the Saunders Watsons of Rockingham, the Cobbolds of Knebworth, the Montagus of Beau-lieu, the Weeks of Penhow, the Probys of Elton, and dozens more. I doubt if one of them is keeping up the house to make money. They are struggling to make money to keep up the house. These are the small plateons of private enterprise that we should honour. Here is where PPGs should be aimed and incentives and honours given. Time was when "every great estate deserved a title". Perhaps those times are here

What has truly changed over the past 50 years is the acceptance that great houses are not just personal

round the "embarrassed" estates of England for the National Trust in the 1930s, he met utter dismay that estates should be alienated from families that had held them for centuries. At Attingham in Shropshire. Lord Berwick was too humiliated even to talk about a sale. He shrugged and eventually died. During negotiations at Lyme in Chesh-ire, Lord Newton "sighed from morning to night, while Lady Newton lay prostrate on the sofa". Assets had become liabilities and it all seemed unfair. With some difficulty, the Trust tried to keep some link between a family and its house after transfer. It was not easy.

Today we treat most great houses as in some sense the nation's collective inheritance. Most were built from the tithes, rents and taxes of the community. Like churches, they belonged as much to neighbourhoods as to families. Mark Girouard has shown that houses and casties were open to allcomers at least into the 18th century. They were communities within communities.

The grand house in its estate is Britain's most distinctive and lasting contribution to European cul-ture. Nobody does them like us. Mr Gummer is right to hope that pri-vate owners can uphold that reputation. But he needs a different PPG. New country houses will build themselves. Old ones are the

# Tradition and the politics of Babel

Jonathan Sacks, the Chief Rabbi,

traces the origins of our political crisis to the eclipse of Judaeo-Christian

the Politics of Hope is an unusual, in fact unique, book for a Chief Rabbi to have written, it is not about Judaism. It is written, not for Jews especially, but for all of us as members of a liberal democratic society. It is not about religion, except in the most general sense that its central concern is about how we can learn to live peaceably, responsibly and graciously together - a concern which morality, politics, religion and secular humanism all share. To write it, 1 have had, as it were, to disrobe and never before studied. I did so because of my concern about certain acute structural weaknesses in contemporary society, and my dismay at the quality and depth of our public conversation as we approach the millennium and think about our collective future. The book is about a certain kind of crisis within Western liberal de-

overcome by a new and more effective style of politics. My argument can be stated simply. There are two concepts of a free society, one liberal, the other libertarian. For the past 50 years the libertarian view has prevailed. Shared by British and American politicians on the Left and Right, it maintains that a free society is ideally one in which individuals are left free to pursue their own choices. The central question of politics is whether this is best achieved by governments doing as much as possible or as little; should we have a maximalist or minimalist State? The maximalists argue that the task of the State is to give everyone as far as possible the resources with which to pursue their private vision of the good life. The minimalists argue that this is best done by the opposite strategy, namely by leaving as many resources as possible in the hands of individuals.

mocracies, and how it might be

Philosophically, the debate has been between John Rawls and Robert Nozick. Economically, it has been between Keynes and Milton Friedman. Politically, it has been between the Roosevelt-Beveridge vision of a welfare state and the "small government" programmes of Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan. But both sides share an

ideal, however deeply they differ in dures and the transparency and ac-countability of governments. All significant moral decisions are to be made by individuals. Indeed, morality itself is a purely individual concern. On both views the key yond that, as Margaret Thatcher as society. There are Individual

This is a tenable view, and there or more precisely, to a social disorder — more bleak than any within living memory. Today many parts of Britain and America are widespread neglect of children; by an erosion of trust and a general

slipping beyond our control. It is not my intention to criticise the past, second-guess the leaders of an earlier generation, or adopt the false righsight. The politics of past have run their course, and we

back to the writings of those who society and reacquaint ourselves with what they had in mind. As soon as we do this we discover in many cases that their concerns are uncannily like ours, and they had wise things to say which we have since forgotten. Their view of politics was liberal rather than libertarian. Their central question was: how can we create a society in

the means they adopt to achieve it: namely, of an arena in which the State guarantees the freedom of the individual to realise his or her own choices. Morality has no part to play in politics beyond fair proceplayers — the only players — are the State and the individual. Bemen and women, and there are families."

is only one thing to be said against it. It has been tried and it has failed. It has given rise to a social order -marked by vandalism, violent crime and a loss of civility; by the breakdown of the family and the loss of faith in the power of governments to cure some of our most deep-seated problems; and by a widespread sense that matters crucial to our future welfare are

must search for a new way.

Fortunately, this is less difficult than it seems. We are able to go set out on the path towards a free



which everyone can participate, and everyone achieve the maxi-mum possible dignity? Their answer was not to privatise morality and rule it out of order in political debate. Some important moral issues are private, but not all are. In particular, it is impossible to create a good society without a vigorous process of public debate and without some consensus about the kind

Some moral issues are private, but not all are

er in a thousand local contexts and politics of involvement. fused. Above all, it is the most powerful available antidote to despair, because it leaves us less exposed to forces beyond our

Dr Sacks: to write The Politics of Hope, "I have had ... to disrobe and immerse myself in literatures I had never before studied"

of society we wish to create. Nor is the creation of society a matter, simply, of state action on the one hand and the private choices of individuals on the other. Societies are made not just by states and individ uals, but also and crucially by what we do, severally, freely and togeth-

constituencies. If libertarianism is a politics of interests, liberalism is a The good news is that wherever this kind of politics has been tried, it works. Compared to libertarianism, it yields a social order in which we are less vulnerable and con-

control, to decisions in which we do not have a part. These are my views, but not mine alone. Increas ingly, they have come to be shared by philosophers, economists, social commentators and literary critics. Most importantly, they have begun to be adopted by politicians at both ends of the political spectrum — by Democrats and Republicans in America, and members of the Labour, Conservative and Liberal Democratic parties in Britain. There was nothing wrong with the politics of collectivism and the politics of private initiative, but their greatest

days lie in the past and we are ready for something different and more challenging. My name for it is: the politics of hope.

A vision once guided us, one that we loosely call the Judaeo Christian tradition. It was not a single ethical system, more a related family of them. It did not answer all stions, and even when it was at its height, there were vexed moral debates. But it taught us moral habits. It gave us a framework of vir-tue. It embodied ideals. It emphasised the value of institutions - the family, the school, the community - as vehicles through

which one generation hands on its ideals to the next. In its broad

rich alike, by miners, labourers, politicians, teachers, the police, dges, fellows of Oxbridge colleges and children in the village school. You could catch traces of its influence from pubs to pulpits to cricket matches. It bound us together as a nation and gave an entire

society its bearings.
That tradition has been comprehensively displaced. In its stead has

Like the Tower

of Babel.

libertarianism

aimed too high

substitutes: ethics of work and success, cults of physical fitand salvation-byshopping, therapies, New Age mysticisms alternative lifestyles, sub and counter-cul-

tures, resurgent ethnicities of multiple kinds, and Internet-surfing as a mode of global identity. Never before have we been faced with such kaleidoscopic variety, but it fails to cohere. It does not provide us with the resources to connect our and future. It does not give unity to a life. It does not lend structure and stability to our relationships. It does not connect our private desires with a larger purpose of which we are a part. It is less like music, more

The alternative world we have come to inhabit has its roots deep in history. In my book I follow it back to Hobbes in the 17th century. Others would date its genesia earlier still. It did not come into being as a result of Thatcherism or Reaganomics in the 1980s, or the "permissive society" of the 1960s, or the welfare state of the 1940s. Each of

these merely carried further tendencies that were present long before. That is why serious thinkers have understood that what is really at stake in the present debate is the Enlightenment itself as an adequate account of human na-

ture and rationality.

Many aspects of that revolution in thought were necessary and benefi-cial. We could not undo them, nor should we wish to. But in one aspect it was simply wrong, in its attempt to assimilate our under-standing of humanity to science. The belief was that just as science was opening the way to limitless progress in our understanding and control of the physical world, so a scientific morality would create an order of rational, tolerant and benevolent human beings, free of the conflicts and prejudices of the past.

a director of Norwick City Football

Club, has her work cut out at the

club ground where she has hopes of

opening a brasserie. A national

survey in Total Football magazine

rated the meat pies on sale at Nor-

wich the worst of any football ground in England.

That was a noble undertaking, but like the Tower of Babel it was aimed too high, and the result is that we find it increasingly difficult to communicate with one another. We are left, like the builders of the tower, isolated and confused.

Fortunately, we are not without hope. The Judaeo-Christian heritage never disappeared, and it exists today as a great reservoir of moral energy and aspiration. Nor are we called on to abandon the heritage of the Enlightenment, for it taught us two things that must never be forgotten: that religion is not sci-ence, neither is it politics. Religion is not the best way of understanding what is; its domain is in the realm of what ought to be. Nor is it an appropriate vehicle of power. In these respects the Enlightenment was closer to truth than the religious establishments of the day.

ut in one respect it simply

nature of human society. We are not atoms, held together by the force-field of the State. We are children and parents, neighbours and friends. We are self-conscious beings, knowing what it is to feel the pain of loneliness, yet not willing to abdicate our selfhood in total fusion with others. We seek individuality and relationship — individuality through relationship. We learn to pronounce the "We" the better to be able to say "I". Thus is born the intricate dynamic of society, beginning with the family and extending ning with the family and extending outward, through which we learn to trust others and to act so that others can trust us. This requires us internalise a complex of rules, virtues, dispositions and habits mediating between the self and others, allowing us to sustain relationships without the use or threat of force. As John Macmurray reminds us. these habits are precarious and need constant renewal. "The institutions by which society maintains itself are not natural," he writes. They are artefacts, and they are maintained by effort in order to sustain the personal life of men and women, and to prevent a relapse into the barbarism of a nearly organic life." As we have come to know all too well in the 20th century, civilisation has a thin skin, and is easily wounded.

O Journaless Sucks, 2997 The Politics of Hope (Jonathan Cape, £15.99) will be published on March 6.

On Monday, Jonathan Sacks argues that the remoralisation of society is the antidote to despair

# High times

ONE OF the most dangerous artisnic partnerships of recent years is once again on the cards. Ralph Steadman, anarchic cartoonist and wine lover, is about to team up with Hunter S. Thompson, drug-taking gonzo journalist, with whom he rampaged across America in the 1970s in the name of reportage. Steadman has been asked to

May on behalf of Thompson, whom he once described as one of the most evil men he knows, in a drink-drive case. Thompson, who lives a hermit-

like existence in Aspen, Colorado, with a Magnum 45 for company, was breathalysed returning from a party to celebrate victory in a

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Thompson and (inset) Steadman: courtroom buddles

campaign to prevent the expansion of Aspen's airport. "The police were waiting for me under the bridge like trolls," he said contemptomisty of his arrest. Steadman met Thompson in 1970

when they joined forces to cover the Kentucky Derby. Later, they collaborated to report on the America's Cup, when Steadman took drugs for the first time. "I kept asking what the pills were that Hunter was gobbling all the time, so he gave me one," he explains. The experiment was not a success, ending with the reporter and his illustrator painting obscenities about the Pope on the hull of a

yacht "I'm a different kind of person when I'm with Hunter," Steadman says. The animal in me comes out." He adds that he will defend his friend to the hilt at the court case in May. "He's a fine, upstanding human being."

#### Health scare

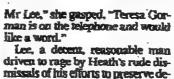
EDWINA CURRIE has been caught bunking off. After appearing mute and weary at an afternoon gathering of the EU Trade Committee, she failed to appear later in the day at a meeting of MPs and Stonewall, the gay rights activ-



ists. While Jack Straw, Chris Smith and Lord Russell listened to an especially apologetic note of absence, daining Mrs Currie was still suffering from a particularly nasty bout of flu, she Currie was spotted mcking into hearty canteen foodwith a female pal in the nearby Strangers' Restaurant. Mrs Currie is now in Estonia and her office would not comment.

#### Elderly leader

AFTER his blazing-eyed confrontation with Deng Xisoping's old mucker, Sir Edward Heath, 80. on Newsnight earlier this week, Martin Lee, leader of Hong Kong's Democrats, was leaving the BBC when he was called back by a scampering researcher. "Mr Lee,



driven to rage by Heath's rude dis-missals of his efforts to preserve democracy in Hong Kong, went back in to take the call. Having introduced herself and congratulated him on his performance against Heath, she said: "You dealt with Deng for years: we've had to deal with Sir Edward for more than 20." Lee quite sympathised

■ The saintly cookery writer Delia



18 years under the Tories"

Gay pride

YET MORE discomfort for the Conservative Party with news that the lion starring in their latest round of advertising has been be-having over-fondly with a male lion Smith, who was recently appointed

> For two days each week, the lion is locked in a cage with his chum and together they frolic, tease and gambol in a manner that reminds onlookers of Christopher Isher-

wood in prewar Berlin. At Conservative Central Office, which is locked in battle with Downing Street over the effectiveness of the advertisements, the heast has a nickname: Dandy

#### Needled

TONY BLAIR branched into fashion at the What the Papers Sav Awards in London yesterday, de-



Cherie Booth: woolly

fending the sweater that his wife was photographed wearing recent-ly when off-duty at the weekend. Cherie Booth had been snapped. leaving a supermarket in a thick woolly jumper far removed from her usual wear.

"My wife has appeared in the newspapers over the last few days," the Labour leader said. That jumper that she wore; look, I bought that jumper. Greater love hath lo woman than to give up her fashion taste for her husband. I still like it and that's as defiant as I'm going to get. And it did not cost £300."

P·H·S

IME



#### **GUIDE IN PERPLEXITY**

A rabbi's brief history of our time

Rabbi means "my master" or "teacher of the law". Where other faiths have priests or pastors, Judaism has rabbis. Hence many of the most influential teachers in history have been Jewish, from Moses and Jesus to Marx and Freud. Great crises often produce great teachers. In the late 12th century, a period of bewildering political and intellectual change in Europe, Rabbi Maimonides wrote his Guide for the Perplexed, combining the best of Jewish and gentile thought. As our own catastrophic century ends, many people in the Western democracies find themselves in a different but no less profound perplexity. Many would welcome guidance in our political and moral crisis, though religious leaders are nowadays rarely as persuasive as such a guide needs to be. In Dr Jonathan Sacks we may have found one.

The Chief Rabbi's wide learning, didactic gifts and personal charisms are attested by his previous appearances on the secular stage, such as his 1990 Reith Lectures. The Times has championed his forthright views on the role of religion, and has also supported his courageous but controversial attendance this week at a memorial meeting for the late Rabbi Hugo Gryn.

Now Dr Sacks has written a remarkable book, addressed to Jews and non-Jews alike, drawing on the best of contemporary secular thought. The first of three extracts appears in The Times today. The Politics of Hope would be remarkable simply as a compendium of scholarship; it is, indeed, a brief history of our time. But it is more. The Chief Rabbi crisply analyses the malaise already identified by Frances Lawrence and others,

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and offers his own solution. The problem as he sees it is the progressive demoralisation of liberal society since the Enlightenment, and especially over the past half-century. The rise of the welfare state and its dependency culture, of the permissive society and libertarian individualism, have in Dr Sacks's view extended throughout society an atomistic view of human nature which was until recently confined to an educated elite. This libertarian revolution involved the sacrifice of an older,

less selfish and materialistic view of the good life, according to which man is a social animal, rooted in the polis. It also meant the carving up of the public sphere, and the privatisation of morality.

The solution follows naturally: demoralisation must be met by remoralisation. That, of course, is easier said than done; Dr Sacks is not so naive as to suppose that appeals for moral regeneration will readily reduce the crime statistics, or that sermons which have failed to fill the churches and synagogues will somehow galvanise a cynical secular society. But he believes passionately that a moral transformation which has happened before can happen again: just as it did thousands of years ago in the Holy Land, and just as it did in Victorian Britain. In each case the secret resource was the same: the Judaeo-Christian tradition encodes a strategy for moral recovery.

What Dr Sacks means by "the politics of hope" is a prophetic, not an apocalyptic or despairing, view of society. That means faith in the moral basis of humanity. After Dunblane, Dr Sacks says that he, like countless others, experienced a moment of national self-awareness. "Morality," he writes, "is civilisation's greatest attempt to humanise fate."

This rich and eloquent book is vulnerable to selective quotation. It will be plundered on the Left, for whom his diagnosis of contemporary ills is more useful than his austere "politics of responsibility". On the Right, his message may be oversimplified into a crude authoritarianism. His espousal of American communitarianism will not appeal to all, though he imposes his own distinctive rigour on an often woolly-minded movement. His erudition sometimes leads him to cite with enthusiasm thinkers whose ideologies he does not share: thus he quotes approvingly from John Macmurray, Tony Blair's mentor, though he has little in common with the Scottish philosopher's ethical socialism. But such edecticism is a strength, not a weakness, in a book which deserves to become a key text, not only during the election campaign, but long after.

#### TOO LONG TO LANGUISH

The Bridgewater Four were scandalously treated

It has taken 18 years for the men convicted of murdering Carl Bridgewater to prove their innocence. One of the four, Patrick Molloy, died in jail, disputing his conviction to the last. He has been deprived of the joy that the other three felt yesterday as they were released by the Court of Appeal to breathe London air for the first time since James

There can be few greater crimes that the State can commit than depriving innocent people of their liberty. These men have spent what should have been the best years of their lives in jail. Though no sum of money could ever wipe out the trauma that they have suffered, they should nonetheless be handsomely compensated.

But while Michael and Vincent Hickey and James Robinson readjust to the world of computers, video recorders, out-of town supermarkets and Tory governments, the Home Office should be examining how this wrongful conviction could have been allowed to stand for so long. It should also try to ensure that the policemen who secured the conviction are themselves brought to justice.

For the evidence which eventually led to the men's release showed tampering on a criminal scale. Mr Molloy always claimed that he had been tricked and intimidated into signing a false confession. He was shown a confession that one of the other co-accused. Vincent Hickey, had allegedly signed. The new evidence produced to the Court of Appeal showed that the Hickey "confession" had been forged by policemen from the No 4 Regional Crime Squad.

The evidence arose out of an "Rsda" test on Mr Molloy's confession, which revealed the imprint of the larged signature written on the page above. Since Mr Hickeywas several miles away in another police station. being questioned by different detectives, the confession could not have been genuine. Mr Molloy's claim that he had been shown this forgery was never believed in the many reviews of the case since 1978.

Tragically, the Hickey signature was discovered in 1990, but until two weeks ago nobody realised its significance. Great credit should go to Jim Nichol, solicitor to the men, who decided to go back over all the evidence in preparation for their latest appeal. Mr Molloy's confession was always crucial to the case against all three men since there was no forensic evidence linking them to the scene, no murder weapon and no witnesses.

The West Midlands Serious Crime Squad. which included the detective who falsified Mr Hickey's signature, was wound up in 1989 after evidence came to light of other fabricated confessions and planted evidence in 23 cases during the 1980s. There is much less chance of such behaviour happening today, with the safeguards introduced by the Police and Criminal Evidence Act. And although police forces still feel under pressure to secure convictions, particularly in child murders, the police culture is gradually changing. But the Government owes it to these three men - and to the memory of the fourth - to inquire into the circumstances of this miscarriage of justice. It must never be allowed to happen again.

#### LOVE, FIDEL

Castro reveals a cuddly side in letters to his mistress

Six love letters, previously unpublished, have just surfaced in Spain. Written by Fidel Castro over four decades ago to Naty Revuelta, his mistress, they are not the greatest examples of the epistolary art. Selfconscious, didactic and much too long, they are uncomfortably like his rambling speeches to the captive and the faithful.

As our Madrid correspondent writes today, some lines in the letters reveal Senor Castro in his true colours. "I believe that love also has its dialectic: thesis, antithesis and synthesis - just like a Revolution, which would not exist without a Counter-revolution." Now that is the man we know so well. the inflexible ideologue with whom Cuba has had to put up for nearly 40 years.

But wait: that is not the whole picture, The letters occasionally reveal an awkward and touching tenderness. Señor Castro was capable of penning some quite cuddly stuff. Consider these lines, in another letter to Naty: "What does 'me too' mean at the end of your letters? Ah! I know...Do you really love me? Swear to me! Even more than I do you?" Elsewhere, impressively amorous, he promises to crush her in his arms "like a lower", and to hold her "sacred, in the titimate recesses of the heart".

Letters to lovers and spouses written by the famous often provide clues to their personalities which one would struggle to find elsewhere. The revelations are not always flattering. Albert Einstein's letters to his wife, for example, show him to have been a cold-blooded male chauvinist who loved her less than his equations.

Bertrand Russell, too, is ill-served by his letters. Writing to Ottoline Morrell, he shows that his eloquence could desert him when he moved from philosophy to passion: Loving you is like loving a red-hot poker. which is a worse bedfellow than even Lytton's Umbrella; every caress brings on agony." And only this week, serious posthumous damage was done to the feminist reputation of Simone de Beauvoir when old letters to an American lover revealed that she referred to herself as "an obedient Arab wife" and a "little loving frog".

It is refreshing, however, when love letters of the famous betray the baser instincts. No one can read this line from Flaubert's letters to Louise Colet - with its stylish mixture of irony and lust - and not warm to the man who gave us Madame Bovary. "Yes, for me you are a diversion, but one of the best. The most complete kind. You relieve me emotionally, for the thought of you fills me with tenderness and my heart reposes on that thought just as when I lie on you." Flaubert's efforts were better than Senor Castro's, naturally, but the latter's letters have their own potent romance. The real pity, of course, is that the young Cuban writer of love letters grew into a long-winded old Communist tyrant. It must have been that damned dialectic

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

#### Demand by life insurers for evidence of genetic tests

From the Chair of the Huntingdon's From Professor David de Bono Disease Association

Sir, I very rarely find myself batting for the insurance industry but 1 do feel that your report of February 19, "Life insurers demand gene test results", may unnecessarily alarm those affected by inherited conditions.

When applying for life insurance, disclosure of a genetic test result has always been a requirement. Failure to disclose a genetic test result could result in a policy being declared void. People attending genetic clinics for pre-test counselling are advised to examine their insurance requirements before taking a test.
In the case of Huntingdon's disease

it is usually possible to obtain insurance if you are "at risk" as indicated by your family history, albeit with loaded premiums (averaging 50 per cent). However, hitherto, if you had received a positive test result, indicating that at some future time you would develop Huntingdon's disease, your chances of obtaining life insurance would have been negligible.

The policy statement by the Associ-ation of British Insurers changes this situation in limited circumstances ie, people applying for life insurance for a sum of up to £100,000 linked to a new mortgage will still be required to reveal the result of any genetic test; but, if the test is positive and would therefore normally have been to the detriment of the applicant, the result will be disregarded. Pamily history will continue to be taken into account. In effect this is an improvement for

people in this situation. Meanwhile, as an association, we shall continue to advise our members to seek independent advice with regard to insurance requirements before embarking on a genetic test. It is important for people to apply to companies that look more favourably on those at risk of an inherited condition and to avoid being refused insurance.

Yours sincerely, SUE WATKIN, Chair, Huntingdon's Disease Association, 108 Battersea High Street, SWII. February 19.

Sir, When I was first introduced to medical aspects of insurance some 20 years ago, I inquired why smokers were charged much the same premiums as non-smokers. I understood that the insurance companies were well aware that smokers constituted a higher risk group, but the proportion of smokers among those seeking in-surance was so high that companies discriminating against them would lose business. If and when the proportion of smokers diminished, discriminating rates would be introduced.

This has indeed come about. I suspect that the reverse situation will eventually apply to those undergoing genetic testing: as and when it be-comes commonplace it will cease to identify a high risk population, and market forces will drive insurers to accept reasonable risks at appropriate premiums. In the meantime, what worries doctors and patients is that many insurance companies seem to regard genetic testing as providing a categorical (yes/no) answer rather than simply contributing, along with clinical and actuarial data, to an

accurate quantification of risk. The price to be paid for compulsory disclosure of genetic information may need to be the adoption of a voluntary or statutory code of practice on its use. This is important if further advances in medical research and patient care are not to be seriously handicapped.

Yours sincerely, DAVID de BONO, University of Leicester Department of Cardiology, Glenfield General Hospital, Leicester LE3 9QP.

From Mr K. D. Boyd

Sir, The benefits of ever-advancing knowledge in genetic make-up out-weigh the harm. The more we know, the better the prospect for mankind.

. I suspect that when the shouting has died down the practice of exclud-ing or loading the insurance of impaired lives will be as difficult with the new knowledge as it was before. There are a number of sufferers from

life-threatening conditions who can obtain cover today, provided they can prove they have come to terms with their defects and have the discipline to

live with them. Would anyone insure with a company known to ignore relevant information? Such behaviour involves paying claims that foresight could have excluded, thus reducing the benefits to other shareholders or policyholders. An underclass of the uninsurable already exists. Would not a dramatic increase in this underclass tempt an ingenious insurer to enter this market? That is what has always happened in the past.

Yours faithfully. KENNETH BOYD. Boyd & Associates (Independent financial advisers), The Oast House, Holt Pound, Farnham, Surrey. February 19.

From Mr Panos C. Mavron

Sir. The insistence of insurers on knowing the results of voluntary DNA tests raises serious issues that must be addressed by the next government. Being health-conscious I volunteered for an ECT test several years ago, even though I was, and remain, perfectly healthy. The test showed that I had a slightly abnormal heart rhythm. As a result insurance companies refused to insure me.

My GP said there was nothing to worry about as not everybody has the same heart rhythm, and later examination by two consultant cardi-ologists, which included a full workout on a treadmill, confirmed that I am healthier than most and that, so long as I continue with my healthy lifestyle and remain fit, I should live a normal lifespan. I have thus been punished for showing an interest in my health.

Yours faithfully, PANOS C. MÁVRON. 71 Linden Way, Southgate, N14. February 19.

taste for cheap publicity stunts.

Weekend Money letters, page 43

I suggest that both Unions have

fallen victim to the same phenomenon

- ie, the concentration by the media

on the soap and pop stars and the

sportsmen and women who are

occasionally attracted to our respec-

tive institutions, at the expense of the

heavyweight debating and speaker

addresses which take place within

In the same week that O. J. Simpson

addressed the Oxford Union, Presid-

ent Lech Waiesa addressed the Cam-

bridge Union. While the former re-

ceived innumerable column inches in

both the popular and the quality

press, Walesa's visit appeared only to

appeal to the Polish press and local

The Princess Royal, Archbishop

Desmond Tutu, Terry Waite, Albert

Reynolds and President Reagan have

all visited the Cambridge Union in

recent years. Yet our media profile re-

ceived its greatest boosts from visits

by Chris Eubank in 1994 and by Tara

Palmer-Tomkinson earlier this year.

M. J. HOWARD (Librarian,

Sturton by Stow, Lincoln.

Cambridge Union, Easter 1996).

both Unions day after day.

#### Decline of the Unions? EU brinkmanship

From Mr Walter Cairns

Sir, Christopher Jackson, MEP, is wrong to assert (letter, February 10) that the recent vote in the House of Lords on our relationship with the EU amounted in effect to a decision to leave the European Union. The Upper Chamber merely voted to reassert the precedence of UK law over EU law by making certain changes to the 1972 European Communities Act. That does not amount to EU withdrawai.

In 1965, the French Government refused to take up its seat at the Council of Ministers. In effect this amounted to issuing the Community authorities with an ultimatum: either you accept our terms or you expel us. This tactic proved successful, as it resulted in the 1966 Luxembourg Agreement, which enshrined the nat-

The EU would be faced with the same dilemma towards Britain if the House of Londs' resolution was translated into legislation. My guess is that, since expulsion of a member state is a political impossibility, the EU would have to submit to the British Par liament's wishes. This would at least ensure that the wishes of an elected body took precedence over those of unelected bureaucrats.

Yours sincerely WALTER CAIRNS. Broomhurst Hall. 836 Wilmslow Road, Manchester. Rebruary 10.

From Mr Antony Snow

Sir, it does not seem to have occurred to the EU Economic and Social Committee that the reason for "the generally negative stance towards Europe adopted by members of the two major political parties in the run-up to the election" is that they will get more votes that way.

The British electorate has over the years shown an unerring sense of what is good for it. Only those writing from the sanctuary of Brussels would believe that they know better.

Yours faithfully, ANTONY SNOW 16 Rumbold Road, SW6.

#### Labour fisheries policy

From the Shadow Minister of Food. Agriculture and Rural Affairs

Sir, Contrary to your report, "Fishermen accuse Labour of breaking quota hopping pledge" (February 11). there has been no change in Labour's position on quota-hopping. Our determination to see this matter resolved remains unaltered. Labour has not ruled out refusing to agree conclusions of the EU's intergovernmental conference if such conclusions do not address the problem of quota-

Quota-hopping will be a priority negotiating objective of a Labour government at the IGC.

Yours faithfully GAVIN STRANG. House of Commons. February 11.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

#### From the President of the Cambridge Union

Sir, The fact that Oxford has problems attracting students to serious debates ("The declining state of the Union", Michael Gove, February 14) will

surprise no one at Cambridge. The Prime Minister must take his share of the blame after his attack during yesterday's Question Time, accusing Mr Blair of "pathetic political point-scoring, barely worthy of a student debating society". As almost every Cabinet heavyweight is Unionsprung, and few if any of Labour's are, he should perhaps choose his

insults more carefully. We recently invited the Prime Minister to attend a debate here, to remind him that decorum is born at Oxbridge and lost at Westminster, but

Yours faithfully. ANDREW LEEK, President, The Cambridge Union Society. 9a Bridge Street, Cambridge. February 14.

From Mr Matthew J. Howard Sir, Michael Gove argues today that the Oxford Union is now displaying a

#### News output on BBC

From the Chief Executive of BBC News

Sir, The reporting of our plans to review our news output led to a speculative piece about the Today programme in your pages ("Why we must save the Gang on Four", Media and Marketing, February 19).

Perhaps I can clarify our intentions. We haven't reviewed our output comprehensively for ten years and i believe it's time for us to look in detail at the ways in which audiences are viewing and listening to BBC News. Our programme-makers will also be a part of this process. As it happens we are in a strong position. The Today

Sir, Old name habits undoubtedly die

hard. Within the past decade or so it

has been my experience to find a

highly formalised system operating

within a university. The registrar,

and readers as Mr or Dr but, as they

were his equal, professors were ad-

few of the more senior professors.

such as deans or pro-vice-chancellors,

with whom he worked closely, were

addressed by their first names in

And I have a typed letter from Dr

Arnold Toynbee, written in 1969, be-

ginning "Dear Mr Dix" and ending

Yours very sincerely, with a manu-script addition below his signature

saying: "Delete the 'Mr'. It looks terr-

ibly formal. A.J. T. ". We were friends

and colleagues, but with an age differ-

ence of almost forty years, so I con-

tinued to address him as Dr Toynbee.

Yours faithfully. GERALD DIX.

13 Friars Quay, Norwich.

some of the less formal meetings.

From Professor Gerald Dix

programme, for example, has more listeners than any other radio news programme.

Yours faithfully.

The Old Hall,

February 14.

Your article claims that "conclusions have been reached and leaked before the process has begun". These are not the conclusions of the review team, which has not yet met.

The review team may recommend changes; it may not. What is not in doubt is our responsibility to serve all audiences with programmes which maintain the journalistic values of impartiality, accuracy and integrity.

Yours faithfully. TONY HALL Chief Executive, BBC News, Television Centre, Wood Lane, W12. February 20.

#### Battered brides Surname usage

From Dr Trevor G. Stammers

Sir, It is not only in the Church of Scotland that clergy beat their wives and scripture is used to justify the violence (report, February 10). In researching my recent book. Love Lies Bleeding, I found evidence of domestic brutality being of equivalent status to a professor, always addressed lecturers in many churches right across the denominations. One woman I interviewed was regularly beaten for 15 years dressed by surname alone. A (very) by her husband, a deacon in an independent evangelical church. Church leaders counselling women

to stay in such situations would do well to remember that it is the violence that separates "those whom God has joined together", not the wife who flees to escape it.

Those who too glibly quote "I hate divorce" (the first words of Malachi ii. 16) rarely know that the verse (in the New International Version) continues and I hate a man's covering himself for his wife) with violence".

Yours faithfully. TREVOR STAMMERS 25 Beaford Grove. Merton Park, SW20. February 10.

#### Anti-Semitism in Shakespeare's eyes

From Mr Peter Bassano

Sir, Jeremy Kingston (review of The Merchant of Venice, February 14) describes the play as "Jew-hating, Jew-baiting, Jew-spitting". There is nothing new in this perception of Shakespeare's anti-Semitic portrait of Shylock, The Merchant has been banned from schools and theatres in several countries because of this per-

Jews were officially proscribed in Elizabethan England, but that didn't mean Shakespeare never met one: despite the exclusion law there were several at court, including the Lupo and Bassano families of royal musicians, and Rodrigo Lopez, Portuguese physician to the Queen, who are iden-tified as having Jewish backgrounds.

In 1594 Dr Lopez was charged with trying to poison the Queen. He was tortured, confessed, found guilty, and executed. This episode sparked off xenophobic fervour in which Mar-lowe's truly anti-Semitic play, The Jew of Malta, was revived to public acclaim. Some may think that the Lopez affair caused Shakespeare to start

work on The Merchant. In 1973 Dr A. L. Rowse, working from the diaries of the Elizabethan astrologer Simon Forman, identified Emilia Bassano, daughter of Baptist Bassano, one of the Queen's Venetian Jewish musicians - from whose uncle, Antonio, I claim descent - as the Dark Lady of the sonnets (details, January 29, 1973). In recent years a number of scholars have presented literary and historical arguments to

support Dr Rowse's identification. Given the inconsistency of Elizabethan spelling, Bassanio would have been recognised by a contemporary audience as Jewish. How can Shakespeare have created in Shylock an anti-Jewish stereotype, since Bassanio, his antagonist, was Jewish too?

Yours etc. PETER BASSANO (Head of Brass Faculty, Royal College of Music). Stonewell Farm, Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire. February 17.

#### Christians in Pakistan

From the Imam of the London Mosque

Sir, The recent persecution of Christians by the so-called followers of Islam in Pakistan (report. "Pakistan Muslims force Christians to abandon homes". February 13) is deplorable and yet another example of the repeated violation of human rights in Pakistan. All that it achieves is a bad name

for islam. Followers of Islam, or for that mat ter any religion, should not violate the peaceful teachings of their faith and tarnish its image in the eyes of others. No religion permits this. The real culprits are those who ignore and violate the teachings of their religion and

Yours sincerely, A. M. RASHED, Imam, The London Mosque. 16 Gressenhall Road, SWIS. February 15.

#### Church clappies

From the Reverend Richard Warden

Sir. Despite the breathtaking beauty of Cranmer, it seems fanciful to suggest that a return to the Book of Common Prayer will in itself encourage the church of tomorrow, our young people, to attend the church of today (letters, February 13). The problem of falling numbers at worship must be

addressed at a deeper level. Given the legislative onslaught on the traditional Sunday in recent years and the subsequent change in behaviour patterns in our society, is it any surprise that people attend church

Yours sincerely. RICHARD WARDEN (Chaplain). Wycombe Abbey School, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. February 13.

#### End of the line?

From Mr Roger Hand

Sir. On the basis that every scheduled train actually must make a pair of journeys - out and back - does the odd number of journeys (39) that South West Trains proposes to cancel each day (report. February 18) mean that, sooner or later, all its trains will end up in Poole or some other extremity of its network?

Yours etc. ROGER HAND, Cottage 4, Kintbury Mill, Kintbury, Berkshire. February 18.

#### Stops and starts

From Mr Tom Courtenay

Sir. When trains near their destination nowadays, a strangled voice often announces: "We are now approaching so and so, where this train will terminate." No it won't. Surely in the majority of cases it will go on to have many more happy journeys.

Yours sincerely. TOM COURTENAY. c/o Wyndham's Theatre. Charing Cross Road, WC2 February 20.

ه کذا من رلامل

#### **COURT CIRCULAR**

February 21: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this morning visited Charterhouse School. Godalming, and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey (Mr Richard Thornton), the Chairman of the Governing Body (Sir Anthony Laughton), the Headmaster (the Reverend John Witheridgel, the Mayor of Waverley Borough Council (Councillor Mrs Gillian Beet) and the

Mayor of Godalming Town Council (Councillor Christopher Slyfield).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highmess attended a Service in the
Memorial Chapel and afterwards
attended a Concert in the Ralph
Vauchen Milliams Music Center Vauchan Williams Music Centre The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh subsequently viewed an exhibition of school activities in the Ben Travers Theatre. Her Majesty, accompanied by His Royal Highness, later opened the Queen's Sports Centre and toured the

Edinburgh, afterwards honoured the Chairman of the Governing Body with her presence at Lunchcon In

With the presence as a supposed as Brooke Hall.

Her Majesty, Patron, and His Royal Highness this afternoon visited the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, and were received by the Chairman of the Trust Board [Mr Colston Herbert], Mr Jeffrey Faulk-roe Whief Executivet and the Mayor ner (Chief Executive) and the Mayor of Guildford (Mr John Woodhatch). The Queen accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, opened St Luke's

#### School announcements

(Palesrina).

ARMAGH CATHEDRAL: 10 HC: 11 M. Benedlette (Naylor). Lord for thy lender percies sale (Millor). Torsourer W Twaddelt 1.15 Ch E. Fausbourdons (Morley). Turn thy lace from my sins (Arwadon).

BELFAST CATHEDRAL: 11 5 Euch. The Lamb Traverner). Mathias in C. O taste and see Youthan Williams; 3.30 Chorat E. Stanford in C. O thou the central orb (Wood).

in C. O thou the central of (Wood).

BERMINGHAM CATHEDWAL' 9 MP 9.15 HC;

I Choral Each, Mass in O (Schubert, The
Lamentalions (Bulistow), So God loved the
world (Jeffosoff Rev M Resurdor), 4 Choral E,
Save us O Lord (Baicstow), Rev E Utley.

BRECON CATHEDRAL 8 Holy Euch. II Holy Euch. Meldsong. Camon G Let 130 E. Mair in In minor, Hear my preyer o Lord (Byrd). Deliver

DE O LINCO OUR GOO (MATERN).

BRISTOLCATHEDRAL: College Green 7.40 M:

B HC 10 Choral Euch. O mais lux (Taillot,
Jackson in G. Grutt omnium (Wood), Canon ABrittern 3.50 Choral E. Brewer in D. Bridge In
the Lord (Paired), Canon J Simpson
CANTERINTY CATHED TAIL 8 HC: 0.00 M: 11

S Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley) Miserare mit
Byrd). The Procenum: 3.15 E. The Angels
(Harvey); 6.50 Compilne, Rev Dr M Chandlet.
CARLING CATHEDRAL: 7.85 M: 8 HC: (0.30 5

Euch. Schubert in B [bat, Fantaria in F
minor/major K 594 (Mozari. Caron R
Chappean: 3 EP.
CHELMETORE)

Chapman: 3 SP.

CHEUMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7 JO MP: 8 HC.
9.36 Euch. The Acting Provise: 11,15 S Ench.
Call to remembrance Garrami, Short Service
(Fauten), Caroon D Knight. 4 Raptism; 6 Choral
E. Second Service (Tomkins). Out of the deep
(Morley), Canon B Thompson.
CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L-5 HC; 10 Euch.
Mass for four voices (Byrol), if ye love me
(Tallist, The Lord is my sheeherd (Schubert).
Capon T Domis: 11.30 Churai M. Surration in
8 Rat, Insange et yarke catae (Hayrin, Mr.)

Mass for four voices (syro), it yes now me in allists, The Lord is my Shenherd (Schubert). Canon T Dennis 11.30 Chursi M, summion in 8 flat, Insanae et vanke curae (Haydin, Mr 1 Turnbull); 3.30 Choral E, Miserer mat (Allegri); 6.30 ES, Canon J Newcome.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10 M; [1 2 Euch, Benedictle (Naylor in 6, Turn thy nee from my sins (Anwood), The Priest Vicar, I 1 8 Euch, O quam gloriosum (Victoria). Assis Christ, the apple tree (Poston), The Treasurer, 3.30 E 8 Installation of Precentor, Purcell in G minor, Salvator mundi (Blow).

CHRIST DEURCH CATHEDRAL, Other B. HC: 10 M & Sermon, Misserere (Chant). Canon O'Donovan; 11.15 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Brillen). Litary to the Holy Spirit (Hurford). The Arthdesoon of Oxford; 6 E & College Prayers, Watson in Eb, O my God I cry in the dayline (Reynolds).

Francis Holland School (Graham Terrace) There will be an Old Girls' Party for the School Birthday on Thurs-day, February 27, from 6.00pm at the school, preceded by an AGM of the newly formed Old Girls' Soci-ety at 5.00pm. Any Old Girl wishing to attend will be most

Wing and afterwards toured the departments in the Wing.

February 22: The Prince of Wales this

morning departed from Royal Air Force Brize Norton to visit Kuwait,

Bahrain, Qatar and Bangladesh. The following were present and took leave of His Royal Highness: the

trook leave of His Royal Highness: the Ambassador from the State of Qatar (His Excellency Mr Ali M. Jaidah), the Ambassador from the People's Republic of Bangladesh (His Excellency Mr A.H. Mahmood Ali), the First Secretary. Embassy of the State of Kuwait (Mr Salem Ghassab M.G. Al-Zamanan), and the Station Commander (Group Capaian David Vass). The Prince of Wales was received on arrival in Kuwait this afternoon by The Crown Prince.

His Royal Highness this evening attended a State Banquet given by The Crown Prince at the Shaab Palace.

Mr Stephen Lamport. Surgeon Commander Robin Clark RN, Lieutenant-Commander John Lavery RN and Miss Sandy Henney are in

ST JAMES'S PALACE

Royal Russell School, Croydon An Old Russellian Reunion for all

#### Weekend birthdays

TODAY: Mr H.A. Ashmall, former Rector, Morrison's Academy, Perthshire, 58; the Hon James Bethell, racehorse trainer. 45; Mr Michael Chang, tennis player, 25; Sir Michael Cobham, former chairman, Cobham, 70; Mr J.N. Ellis, trade unionist, 58: Mr Joseph Enedgui, fashion designer, 61; Professor Sir Brian Follett, FRS. Vice-Chancellor, Warwick University, 58; Mr Bruce Forsyth, entertainer, 69; Miss Deborah Grant, actress, 50; Miss Sheila Hancock, actress, 64; Miss Jocelyn Herbert, stage designer, 80; Mr Howard Hodgson, chief executive, Ronson, 47; Mr Mike Hollingsworth, television executive, 51; Sir David Jack, FRS, pharmacologist, 73; Mr Peter Jacobs, chief executive, Bupa, 54; Mr Edward Kennedy, Ameri-ean politician, 65; Sir John Kerr, St. Miss Patricia Lancaster, former 58; Miss rathea Lancasser, former Headmistress. Wycombe Abbey School, 68; Mr Niki Lauda, racing driver, 48; Miss Frances Line, former Controller, BBC Radio 2.



Julie Walters, the actress, is 47 today; Anton Mosimann, the chef, will be 50 tomorrow

57; Mr Ian McColl, former Editor, Daily Express, 82; Sir John Mills, actor, producer and director, 89; Mr Tom Okker, termis player, 53; Mr Richard Page, MP, 56; Sir Christopher Peterson, former High Sheriff of South Glamorgan,

79; Mr Nigel Planer, actor. 44; Lieutenant-General the Hon Sir William Rous, 58; Sir William Slack, former Serjeant Surgeon to the Queen, 72; Mr Ian Stark, showjumper, 43; Lord Strathclyde, 37; Dame Joan Varley, former

Richard Thomas George Chester-Master, of Preston, Chrencester, Gloucestershire, left £6,989,917

Robert Charles Petre, of Kirdford, Billingshurst, West Sussex, left: E3.117.507 pet.

The following have been elected officers of the Fan Makers' Com-

#### Appointment

Mr LD.S. Beer to be Chairman of the Council of the Winston Chur-chill Memorial Trust from March

ST JAMES'S, Geriickingthe, EC4: 10.30 S Euch, Rev J Paul,

ST JAMES'S, Picadilly: 8.30 HC, 11 8 Buch, Rev S Cathler 5.45 E.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, Seice II's Euch, Let my complaint (Batten), Ear C Planter

carving that fetched £28,000 were suctioned and sold at

The London Hilton Hotel o

February 15th

for the first time in the UK.

More waser are to be said.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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of the priests (Mendels & 30 HC, Rev M Okello.

ard E(S: ) | Family S, March idelsphin, Rev D Richards;

#### Dinners

Royal College of Radiologists Dr M.J. Brindle, President of the Royal College of Radiologists, and Mrs Brindle were the hosts at a gave a dinner last night at the clubhouse to mark the retirement of Mr John Sheridan after 50 years as the club's professional. dirmer held last night at 38 Service dinner Fortland Pleas.

Freemen of the City of London Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Buchanan, Master of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London, accompanied by Lady Buchanan, presided at a dinner of the guild held late. dimer of the guild held last night at the Royal Naval College Green-wich. Commander J.M.C. Maughan, commander of the college, also spoke.

45 Gray's Ian Square
The Chambers of Miss Elbabeth
Appleby, QC, and the Hon Michael Beloil, QC, 45 Gray's Ian
Square, gave a dinner in honour of
Mr. Jusque Moses on his elevation to the High Court Bench. Mr Beloff proposed the toust and Mr Justice Moses replied. Denham Golf Clab

Captains and Lady Captains past and present of Denham Golf Club

# Pembroke Yeomanny Earl Cawdor was the principal guest of the Pembroke Yeomanny Dinner Club held last night at the RAC Ranges, Castlemartin, to mark the bicentenary of the French surrender at Fishguard (February

of Music Major-General David Penne father, Commandant General Royal Marines, was the host at the Mountbatten Festival of Music given by the Mussed Bands of the Royal Marines at the Albert Fiall

Mountbatten Festival

# Levis, Head Master, Bon College, SS; the Earl of Lincoln, 84; Lord St Levan, 78; Mr Colin Sanders, founder, Solid State Logic, 55; Mr Martindale Sidwell, organist and conductor, 81; Miss Helena Sukova, tennis player, 32; Lord Tugendhat, 50; Mr. David Mord, frames 60; Mr David Ward, former President, Law Society, 60; Dom

Latest wills

Aelred Watkin, former Head-master, Downside School, 79.

Conservative Party agent, 77: Mr S.C. Whitbread, Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, 60.

TOMORROW: Mr Bill Alexander.

theatre director, 49; the Duke of Beaufort, 69; Miss Pam Blundell,

fashion designer, 30; Mr Jermyn P. Brooks, chairman, Price Waterhouse Europe, 58; Mr James

Cousins. MP, 53; Lady Digby, 63; Lord Ezra, 78; Miss M.I. Farrer,

former chairman, Central Mid-

wives Board, 83; Mr Frank

Gerstenberg, Principal, George Watson's College, Edinburgh, Sc. Mrs Maureen Hicks, former MP,

49; Mr Nicholás Kenyon, Control-ler, BBC Radio 3, 46; Mr John

is, Head Master, Eton College,

William Alfred Dennis, of Haddenbarn, Cambridgeshire, left EL503.455 p.s.

#### Fan Makers

pany for the ensuing year: Master, Mr N.G. Crispin; Free Warden, Mr J.P. Allen; Foreign Warden, Mr M.H. Davis.

#### marriages Mr A.D.G. Sells and Miss S.P. Williamson

**Forthcoming** 

The engagement is announced between Adrian, elder son of Mr David Sells, of Holland Park, and Mrs Pauline Sells, of Overthorpe, Oxfordshire, and Susie, twin daughter of Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Keith and Lady Williamson, of Burnham Market,

Mr R.H. Byrne and Miss C.H.V. Duna

The engagement is announced between Redmond, son of Mr and Mrs T. Byrne, of Dublin, Ireland. and Claire, daughter of Mr and Mrs BJ. Dunn, of Chislehurst,

Mr J. Christmas und Mim E. Trim

Mr and Mrs Michael Trim, of Rainham, Kent, have pleasure in namouncing the engagement of their daughter, Eleanor, to Julian, younger son of Mr and Mrs Peter Christmas, of Helensburgh, Dumbartonshire. Mr D.J. Cooper

and Miss K.P. Clarke

The engagement is announced between Durgan, elder son of Mr and Mrs J.F. Cooper, of East Coker, Somerset, and Katherine, elder daughter of Rear Admiral and Mrs J.P. Clarke, formerly of Haselbury Flucknett, Somerset. Mr P.A. Coulson

and Miss C.A. Bess
The engagement is announced between Peter, eider son of the late Mr Roy Coulson and of Mrs Anne Coulson, of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, and Catherine, elder daughter of Mr Roy Bean, of Stumford, Lincolnshire, and Mrs Anne Bean, of Oakham, Rutland.

Mr CI Hou

The marriage will take place quietly today, at Kidderminster Register Office, of Christopher John Holt, son of Mr and Mrs Norman Holt, of Sandilands, Croydon, to Sally Ann Ratcliffe, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Ashby, of High Woods, Colchester. The honeymoon will be apent in The Dominican Republic.

Mr M.R. Hoverd and Miss E.F. Cornes

The engagement is amounced between Mark, elder son of Mr. and Mrs David Howard, of Astwood Bank, Worcestershire, and Emily, second daughter of Mr Mrs Colin Cornes,

ST IAMES'S, Succest Gardens, W2: 8 Euch; 10.30 S Euch, Missa brevis (Lott), If God be for us (Handel); Rev Bill Wilson; 6 Ch Buch, Crown of roses (Tchallovsky). Mr Cfl. 770

and Miss T.W. Wilson The engagement is announced between Christian, youngest son of Mrs Elizabeth Preston, of London. WI, and the late Mr Desmond Preston, and Tara, eldest daughter of Mr James Wilson, of Skelmorile, Ayrahire, and Mrs Nicholas Byam Shaw, of London, Wil.

Mr P. Hale and Miss S.J. Secrett between Paul, only son of Mr and Mrs Warwick Hale, of Nyabira, Zimbahwe, and Sacha, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert

Secrett, of Enton, Surrey. Mr C.E. Jones and Miss H.P. Bevan

The engagement is announced between Cledwyn, youngest son of Mr and Mrs David Jones, of Mattheward Mattheward David Jones, of Mathrafal, Meifod, Powys, and Hannah, daughter of Mr Peter Bevan and the late Mrs Susan Bevan, of East Horsley, Surrey. Mr R. Kingston

and Miss J.J. Davies The engagement is announced hetween Rupert, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Kingston, of Bushey, Hertfordshire, and Julia, daughter of Mr and Mrs Nigel Davies, of

SURREDOTE Mr J.P. Nolan
and Miss A.G. Heasman
The engagement is announced
between James, son of Mr and
Mrs Paddy Nolan, of Ditchling,
Sussex, and Anja, eldest daughter
of Mr and Mrs Raymond
Heasman, of Brighton, Sussex,

Mr R.J. Owen-Thomas and Miss D.J. Priestley

and Miss D.J. Priestey
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Mrs Beryl Owen-Thomas and the late Dr. J.B. Owen-Thomas, of Gayton, Wirral, and Deborah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Priestley, of Heswall, Wirral.

Mr A.O. Richards
and Miss 11. Consists

To Consists and Miss J.L. Cousins

The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Professor and Mrs Bryan Richards, of Helensburgh, Scotland, and Juliene, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Cousins, of Sutton Valence Kent of Sutton Valence, Kent.

Mr R.E.C. Seymour-New

The engagement is amounced between Rupert, only son of Mr and Mrs C.T. Seymour-Newton, of Ennismore Gardens, London SW7, and Jaime, daughter of Mr. E.G. Wald and the late Mrs Wald, and stepdaughter of Mrs P. Wald, of Hidden Pheasant Path, Wading Phone Mrs Vald, Ware Vocale. River, New York:

Mr B.E. Wesses and Mine A.C. Booley
The engagement is announced between Barnaby, elder son of Mr. David Weston and Mrs Michael Batty, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, and Anne, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs James Bosley, of Hurley, Berkshire. Mr N. Wheatley and Miss V.C.L. Anthony

The engigement is announced between Nathan, younger son of Mr and Mrs Keith Wheatley, of St Albans, Hertbridshire, and Vanessa. and Mrs Derek Anthony, of Northwood, Middless.

th: Est.

.

#### Anniversaries

TODAY ' BIRTHS: George Washington, Ist American President 1789-97, West-moreland County, Virginia, 1732; Arthur Schopenbauer, philosopher, Gdansk. 1789; Robert Baden-Powell, Baron Baden-Powell, founder of the Boy Scout movement, London, 1857, (his wife Olave, World Chief Guide, was born on this day, Wingerworth, Derbyshire, 1899; Eric Gill, artist, sculptor and typographer, Brighton, 1882; Luis Bunuel, Spanish film director, Calanda, 1900. DEATHS: Amerigo Vespucci. merchant and adventurer. Seville.

merchant and adventurer, Seville, 1512; Jean-Baptiste Corot, painter, Parls, 1875; Stefan Zweig, novelist, Petropolia, Brazil, 1942; Andy Warhol, painter, New York, 1987; Solomon, pianist, London, 1988. Last invasion of Britain: French troops landed in Pembrokeshire on this day in 1797, but surrandered two days later.

The Times ran the first classified TOMORROW

BIRTHS: Samuel Pepys, dlarist, London, 1633; George Frederick Handel, composer, Halle, Germany, 1685; Mayer Amschel

1734: John Walter IL chief propri etor of The Times 1812-47, London, 1776; George Watts, painter, London, 1817; Victor Fleming, film

DEATHS: Sir Joshua Reynolds, let President of the Royal Academy 1768-92, London, 1792; John Keats, poer, Rome, 1821; William Butterfield, architect of the Gothle nevival, 'London, 1900: 'Dame Nelle Melba, soprano, Sydney, New South Wales, 1931; Sir Edward Elgar, Master of the King's Musick 1924-34, Worcester, 1934; Leo Hendrick Backeland, invenue of Bakeine Beacou, New York, 1944; Stan Laurel (né Arthur Stanley Jefferson), comedian, Santa Monica, California, 1965; L.S. Lowry, painter, Glossop, Derbyshire, 1976; Herbert Howells, composer, London, 1983; Sir Adrian Boult, conductor, Farnham, Surrey, 1983. The Cato Street conspiracy was toncovered, 1920.

Major Walter Winfield patented an outdoor game he called "sphairistike", later known as lawn termis, 1874. The Rotary Club was founded in

J. If it was teally you, perhaps we should talk sometime.

GOLDEN

ANNIVERSARIES

daytime (Reynolds). Only does to yell the daytime (Reynolds). COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP: 8 COMMUNION: 10.30 Euch. Messe cum jubilo (Duruflei. Teach me O Lord (Byrd), Sev 8 Hinksman: 3 German Lutherans: 5 Poish Lutherans: 5 E. We wait for thy loving (McKlei, Aston in f. Wash me throughly (Wesley). DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC. Caron D Brown, 10 M. Benedicite (Sumsjon in B flat), 30 God of Sethel (Tye). Cannon D Hodgson: 11.15 HC. Liany in Procession (Taillis). Duries in E. Ave wertim corpus (Mozari, Caron R Coppoin: 3.30 E. The Fourth Service (Batten), Christe qui lux ne (Winke).

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I shall be with you to protect you wherever you go, and I shall being you back to this land. I shall not have you	DEATHS				SERVICES	FOR SALE	HOBBIES &	ANNOUNCEMENTS	
until I have done what I have promised you Generic 28: 15	ABEL - Mary Kathleen of Hayling Island, on 18th February 1997 after a short	February 14th 1907 in	Mischard (see Markey) horn	symposts - Dr. Miles at home with his family, on 18th February, aged 67 years.	LET the expects help you to know your facesther, Wine Achieve- nears founded 1961, Rockhaute, Connectory, GTI 19415.	MRM. Christian Dior Rischgiuma. Sim 12:56" iong. Theol: exp. 'A' line, Marching hat, 12:250 ong. Telefax: 01929 445482.	PASTIMES HERLEY MEDICITA - Pully menurud 1908 steembort for medicible medici	A FOURTH WAY SCHOOL to the living tradition of Gundleff and Companiety now accepting students 0181 547 5363.	J. If it was beally you, pe- should talk sometime
BIRTHS ASH - On February 20th, to	illness. Funeral on 3rd March et 2.15 pm, Enster Caratonium. No flower Donations to Christian Witness to Israel and British & Rorsign Bible Society may	London, nged 71, after a shore illness barrely borne. Beloved husband of Lucy and dearly loved father of Devid, Marian Edward, Lucy, Marqueet, Alvard, William and Coll. Republished the Aloyains Charch, 20 Photolic Morally 20 Photolic Process.	the late linjor PLAT, Mathema 14th Funjab Regiment, A wery aperial sums and bland to us all. Funeral has already taken place. Donations to British Red Cross and any	with his family, on 18th February, aged 67 years. Buthesd of Rowens and house of Willow house set busine. Pulsant at All Saint; Church, Physica Upland at 1.30 pm on Wednesday 26th.	WANTED	SPLENDED Sotic Mahopuny Stear- ton Hodel Dixing Saira Table 6'6" by 5', refures to 5'. Unried grift-marcalist. £1,300. Seartiful solid makop any chairs into 1312 202 7379	Total Control of the	A LEGACY MEANS A LOT TO THE LIMBLESS	ANIMALS
Hilary (née Briggs) and Jon, s daughter, Jasmine. DEMBY - On February 15th, to	he sent to F.J. Luxton F/D, Ottery St Mary, Devon.	Friday February 28th.	Freez House, Triangle Road, Expwards Heath, West	her docutions may be under to The Disseme, St Marks Hospital, Horthwick Purk, Harrow or The Practice	prices paid, 0171 498 8992 or visit 31 Park Lane WI.			Help as help the furbines.  Please make a doubtless now text a largecy latter to examine our vigal, varyel, Viga pour large continues our vigal, varyel, Viga pour large continues our vigal, variety with the vegetal.	
Richard, a daughter, Hannah Sophie,	CHAPPLE - John Edward passed away suddenly on 18th February aged 63. Loybe healthood of fitta deer	Thursday 6th March morning, burial Juanes thereafter, Funeral Saturday 8th March afternoon, Konadu Yindom, Kumasi.	Sussex RH16 4HW, tel: (01444) 451166.	Manager, The High Street Surgery, Epping. Byggungescat - Seeins, to 21st February, beloved wife of	MUSTER THE MULLS Propert, trepent for 60th Muthday present for 60th Muthday present for 60th Muthday 0061 8 83642421 or Tel 0061 8 84716411 South Assignific	YORK, PERSON', sinte, threature is terrected function to terrected functions as for the following terrected functions that is internal tel. Tolky Hestall Occas 850039 (With)	A BESTHERATE Newspaper 1847-	Brogaldes for DPT TYC Sellish Lincolnes Facility Continues	Transmitted by
HARMSWORTH - On 6th February at The Fortland Hospital to Atalanta and Roymond, a boy, Alfred	Loving husband of Rita, dear father of Judith and Belinds and Ruber have of Devel and Graham. Seloved granded of Jocelyn and	Memorial Service St 12 Looks College, Mbrom, Kumasi, Sunday 9th March morning.	PLATT - Rosemany Elizabeth (Rody). On 18th February 1997, at King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurat, pesterfully after a sudden	Alastair and mother of Hamine Puneral private. Donations to The Royal Marsden.	POR SALE	MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS	A SMITHDATE Newspaper 1947- 1996 in presentation Solder ELECO her plp. Newspad year videns avail. Tallfax 01924- 412844 9pm 7 days.	Charley Reg 15s, 2874g1	(Bay Charley No 2017)
soozer than expected but the control and a gest of all subil	Hannah, Funeral at 1 pm Thursday 27th February at St Mary's Church, Hitchin, Family flowers only, but donations may be sent to	FORMEST - Gertrude Ann (née Morgan), widow of Commander John William	and short illness. Much loved Sister, Aunt and Great-Aunt, Pricate formul. No.	WALL - Elizabeth on 19th February at home. Much loved wife of Peter and mother of Racon and distan-	A SMITTERATE Newspaper, Origi- mil. Superbly presented. Prespisase 9800 906609	1880's vistage, Good condition. 42000 cms, 0187 941 1469	PLOWERS BY POST year spand, 12 Carrations C10.00, 18 513.00, 12 Carrations & 25 Fronthis £18.00, 25 Pressure £10.00, 24	FOR SALE	
February, to Petra and Berry, a daughter, Charlotte, 2	David J. Binks Funeral Director, 96 Walsworth Road, Hitchin, SG4 9SU,	Forest, died pescatully in Buth on February 18th 1997, aged 82 years. Funeral Service will be held at Haycombe Crematorium.	SEATON - Dr. Shirley 20th Palmoney 1997 percentally at	Requiem Mass at Christ the Prince of Pends Perturba- Way, Weybeidge on Tennaday 27th February at 10 am and afterwants at Sparts Redons	TICKETS FOR SALE  ALL AVAIL: Phenton, all theorem.  Eddens. P.Collins. C. Zion, Budy all spart DIVI wito Divi.	MEN Stainway Grand Pinno 5th 6', black serie Smith Half price. 0465 391227.	C1050, 26 Chromitons & 25 Freezing EP450, Card and ma- mps har. La Nerve Halson Former, 3r Sevicer's, Georg- sty, C.T. Tel 01461 43052, CCs. Pax 01461 66013		TIMES o sell your
CLINESHR - On February 8th 1997, to Semeent and Tabir, a beautiful daughter, America	COURS - Issue that spid \$3 percefully at home on February 19th, Much loved	Bath on Thursday February 27th at 1.30 pm. Denations for the Januaritans and the sent to Jollys Fundral Blackers, Wissian Too.	home after contageous struggle, beloved wife of Ray, loving inspirational more of the and illing Funeral Tuesday 25th	Road Flowers may be sent to Funcial Directors, F. Chitty, 45 Eliagrove Road, Weybridge, tel: (01932) 842220, but Masses	TICKETS	the musical fastraments che- afficiation for 3 days and get a further 3 days free, Call 0271 680 6877 nove	FLATSHARE	antiques, b	orica-brac
SYRES - On 18th Pebruary 1997, to Anne (nee	bushend of Elia, father of Andrew and Ell, grandfather of Emily and Nikel Private Cremation. Family flowers	ROWARD - Thomas Were	February 3 pm Securation Flowers, sprays only to Funeral Directors J. Williams, (01248) 810642.	MEMORIAL SERVICES	FIVE NATIONS RUGBY THE KYDER CUP BOYAL ASCOT PRENCE OPEN TERMS BRITISH GRAND PRIX WINDLEDON DERBYTURES	ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES	ACCESSES TON THE orchadal Moore opening. High St Imin. stands Im. £130pm. 0171 937 1948		e or any rabilia?
Rennebry) and Esthew, a son, Rupert William George, twin brother to Renry Nicholas Alexander who was millions.	only, but donations if destroy to the EXLL c/o f & W Green, Funeral Directors, 19 Eskin Street, Keswick, Cumbria, tel: (017687)	(Tom), formerly of Loughton, Essex. Died peacefully on 20th February 1997 at Prince Michael of Kent Court, Wattord, aged	SMITTHE - Bev. Paul Ecdney, MA, BD, on Pelensny 17th 1997 at Horningses,	SIARROS - Jan-Left Vilcor, A Manualti Service Will tale	ENGLAND + AUSTRALIA CELING DION PHIL COLLING MANUC ST PREACHERS THE BEAUTHUL SOUTH	MARBLE VASE	104corrisonados Studio Sat, prof Ale maio, 6500pcim Inc. Tal: 0171 8847679.	Advertise four lines OR	further.
WOOSHT - Say (Exceptioned)	72246. Thanksgiving Service to be assunged laser.	S1. Cremation private. Memorial Service to be announced. No flowers please. Donations to Prince Michael of Kent Court	at florsingses Wednesday February 26th 1997 at 3.30pm.	pines on Priday 7th Masch at 3.30 per at 5t Mary's Church, Byfleet. Any empairies to James Gun. (01932) 353363.	PEANTON MISS SAIGN 0171 323 4480 SPORTS TICKET	AUCTION  Korean matrile wases including  1 white wase with dragon	COMMISPARE TWO Bedsh Prof. from Shape symmittee with young naches \$50pm knowl has 042 best made	The Times for only	the personal column of 220 including VAT 90 including VAT ).

YORK HOUSE

Perruary 21: The Duke of Kent. President, his evening attended a concert at Wellington College, Crowthorne, Berkshire. THATCHED HOUSE LODGE Pebruary 21: Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Rt Hon Sir Angus Ogiby, this morning arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, from Hong Kong. The Lady Mary Muzzford was in attendance.

RSVP Francis Holland School, 39 Graham Terrace, London SWIW &JF. Tel: 0171-730 2971.

welcome and should get in touch with the school to make sure the register is accurate if they have not already received notification.

who were at 'Ballards' or 'Russell Hill' will be held on Saturday, May 10, 1997. Details: 0181-657

Appeal. Centre

Sir Sigmund Sternberg was the host at a reception at the Reform

Receptions

Mr Mark Turner, Headmaster of

Kelly College, and Mr Christopher Kirwin, Chairman of the Appeal

Committee, were the hosts at a

reception given yesterday at the Reform Club by the Governors of

Kelly College to mark the launch of the Admiral Kelly Millennium

Admiral Kelly

COVERD.

CERTER CATHEDBALL I MC 9.45 S Ruch, God be in my head Rutter, Durke in E. Panis angelicus (Francis, Canon R Parry; 11,15 M. Esponises (Byrds, A. Call to remembrance (Farrand, Ven R Cilpin: 3 E. A: O Lord, look down from beaven (Bantahilli, 6.30 E. Blessed Jesu (Dvoral), Canon A Mawson.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL R. | 2.15 MC 10,15 Euch, Mirra bravis (Berkeley), Canon N Heavisides; 3 E. Gray in F Minor, Salvanor mundi (Blow).

mundi (Blow).

Guildford Cathelbeal: 8 HC: 9.45 8 flich
[Sarewell serv for Canon Dr Penwick, Llianst
(Tallis). Messe solenneite (Victure), Lar at
prortal flesh (Bairstow). The Sub-Dean: 6.30 8.

Howells in G. Strengthen ye the weak bands
(Harrist, Rev Prof D Martin.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL: I HC: 10 liven, Stanford in C, Lord for thy tender metales sales

Hilliani, Miserare mei (Byrdi, Toe Precrator, 1130 M. Sunston in 8 dat Strum in C. Drog drop slow trees (Gibbons); 3.30 E. Dyson in 7, Thos will keep tim in pertert peace lwelly). HICESTER CATMEDEAL & HC: 10 MP; 10.30 S. Each, Mozart in C. Thy Word is a tantern (Purcell). Bishop of Each, Myrdi is a tantern (Purcell). Bishop of Each, Myrdi is a tantern (Purcell). Bishop of the singstoke 4 Charle E. Dyson in D. Evening hymn (Bullour Gardinar). Canon W Quinney.

Canon W Quinty.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL 8 HC. 1030 S Euch,
Land for Thy tender merche sake (Hillian). The
Treasurer: 330 E. Responses (Ebdon). The
Chicheser Service (Archer).

3.45 E. Collegium regale (Wood), O Lord. look down from heaven (Eastishilit), Mr R Sutton. Liverpool. CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Euch; 3 Choral E. 4 HC.
LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Euch; 3 Euch; 13 Euch, Ireland in C. Remember nor, Lord, our offence (Purcell), Canon in residence; 3.30 E. Jesus College service (Marilas), How beauthal upon the mourraine statiner; 3.30 E. Jesus College service Marilas), How beauthal upon the mourraine statiner; 3.50 E. New College, Service Statiner; 3.50 E. Seus College service (Purcell), Archdezon of Northursbertand: 6 Choral E. Samsion in G. Steal eway Jarr. Self. NEWYORT CATHEDRAL: 3 Euch; 10.30 M. Renedletus (Burtch), Thou wilk beep him (Sumskin & 30 S Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Justorum animae (Byrd).
MOEWICH CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP. 8 MC: 10.30 S Euch, Risanberger in 6 flat. D samin convivient (Vann), Archdezon of Norwich; 3.30 E. Te lucis ante terminum (Strategier), Rev A Linie 6.30 Compline.
Petermogroud Cathedral 2.30 M. Republish of the flat of the back of the compline.

neaven (Battishill).

RIPON CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch: 9.30 Parish
Buch, irriand in C. Moret, Salvator mundi
Tallisi, Canon Michael Glauvilled midt. 1.30
M. Purceil in 8 flat. Hide not thou thy face
(Farrand): 12.30 Euch: 4.00 Holy Sautism: 5.30
E. By the waters of Sabrion (Sumsim). Master
Tallist Technical, the Rev David Munta,
ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC 9.45 M,
Juckson in C. O almighty God (Bacrotte):
10.30 S Euch, Tantum ergo (Faure), Freinde

Memorial Service to be announced. No flower please Domations to Prince Michael of Kent Court Amenity Fund, Stratford Bond, Wasford WD1 3QH.

STORART - Paul, son of the late Col. Engh Morton Stobert and the late Mrs Lan Fairbaira and brother of Repert Much loved by his separate Russis and his family and many friends. Consisting prises farries of Remembrance to be amounted at a later date.

February 19th at Musyawe Park Rospital, peacefully after a courageous fight against cancer. Service at St Hary Magdalene Church, Extund, on February 28th at 2 pm. Family Bowetz only. Donations may be given to the church clo j & 8 Hayes Ph. Poriock, Somerset TA24 6rd.

Club yesterday to announce the 1997 Niwano Peace Prize of 20,000,000 Yen (approx £100,000) to the Corrymeela Community by the Niwano Peace Foundation in The Rev Marcus Braybrooke presided. Contributors included Lord Hylton, Mr Masatoshi Muto. Dr John May, Dr Philip Potter and the Peace Prize Recipient.

Church services tomorrow and Fugue in C minor (Bach), Professor the Ray G R Dünspan: 3.15 E, Ah, thou poor world (Birlands), Pantasia & Fugue in C minor (Bach), SalisBury Cathelparis & HC: 10 Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd). The Deans 11.30 M, The Lamentation (Bairstow). Turn thy face boon my size falwood), The Chancellori 3.00 E, Turn our capanity. O Lord (Byrd). HINEFIELD CATHEDRAL: # HC: 10 MP: 10.30 S Eoch. Capanin Alan Turner: 6.30 E, Canon C Smith.

SOUTHWELL MINISTER: 7.30 M & Lic & HC; 930 Parish C, The Provinc: 11 Sung Euch, instand in C, Cast me not every 5.8 Welley, The Processor, 1.15 E, The Wildermess (5.5 Wesley), Pléce Hérolgue (Franck).

Internal in C. Char me not sway (\$ 8 Welley). The Precentor, \$1.15 E. The Wildermon (\$ 8 Wesley). Piece Herolique (Franck).

TRUNC CATHEDRAL: 9 HC 9 M: 10 S Euch, O Almighty God (Bichard Anchol, Missus Brevis (Berkeley). The Deam: 6 E. A flat (Harwood), there is an old belief (Farry). The Chancellor, WARESTEID CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, 9.15 Parish C. Very Ray J Southgase 11 Each, Benedicus in O Gumslon), Canon C Natro-Briggs 2 Victim Support serv, Very Sev J Southgase 4 E. Euch, Benedicus in O Gumslon), Canon C Natro-Briggs 2 Victim Support serv, Very Sev J Southgase 4 E. Linny to the Moly Spirit (Hurford), Canon I Knox. WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, 9.45 Sung Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), Misserer me (Byrd). The Sub-Deam: 11.30 M, Sumslom in B Blac Call to remembrance (Fernand): 3 E. Opson in R. Lussorum andress Guadord), Canon E Morris. Melling Charles, Canon D Hurt. 11.15 Abbey Ruch. Messe cum judico (Durutid. Beigners, is Vius en grie, (Poulenc), The Deam: 3 E. Lamentations of Jeremina (Tallis), Rev E Godsali: 5.45 Organ rectal. Richard Shirey: 6.30 E. Canon A Harvey.
WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M. Seedictions (Fanchourlous), Emerdemus in mellus (Byrd). Canon A E Walker; 11.30 Euch, Mass for The workers and miserere met (Byrd). Canon D Thomas: 4 E. Crucificus (Loui): 6.30 Congregational Serv, Cathon I MacRontle. 70 Pet Minster and Misser and Miserere met (Byrd). Canon D Thomas: 4 E. Crucificus (Loui): 6.30 Congregational Serv, Cathon I MacRontle. 70 Pet Minster and Misser and Miserere met (Byrd). Canon D Thomas: 4 E. Crucificus (Loui): 6.30 Family Euch. Rev Dr M Dorsen: 11 S Euch, Mass for the voices and miserere met (Byrd). Canon D Thomas: 4 E. Crucificus (Loui): 6.30 Family Such. Rev Dr M Dorsen: 11 S Euch, Mass for the voices and miserere met (Byrd). Canon D Thomas: 4 E. Crucificus (Loui): 6.30 Family Such, Wash me throughly 15 S Westey, Rev D H Grifficus In G Sunston): 4 E. Canacae Domino and Deus misererum (Roome). Por la. 11.30 Family S, the Minor Canon: 11.15 Ch Euch. Tono In Residence. 5 Tono Misererum (Popper J drop slow lears, Othou sweetest source (Wood), Canon In Residence, ST EDMINDSBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC. 10 S EDCh. Tankun ergo (De Seversci, Schmäcke dich (Crüger), Canon, C. Bevingson, 11.30 Choral E. A grateful heart (Harrist; 3.30 Choral E. A grateful heart (Plummend), Cali to remembrance (Faranto, ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL Southwark E. 10, 6 LM; 11.30 Solemn Mass, Missa nova (Cycantey), Ubl caritas (Duruffe), Rev G Stradley's Stations of the Cross.
ST GLES CATHEDRAL Editionale 6, 10 MB HC. Missa brevis (Gebrielle: 11.30 MS. Crucilluss (Louil, Rev A G McGillivray, 6 Lenten address and music, Mr K Boyd and Mr M Harris, 6 EHC.

Gales, WE: 11 Holy Mass, Archbishop Y Ghirlan.
WESLEYS CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC;
II MS, Rev DY L GOURNS.
WESTHANSER CENTRA, HALL phenhodist, SW:11, Rev E Fletcher, 6.30, Rev Beryl Lucas.
ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham S. EC2: 1) Ch Ench. Rev P D Schmiege 7 has veryes, a Fischer, Cam.
ST AUGUSTINES, Queen's Gaze, SW7: 8.30 HC; 1; S Euch, Ryrle SE (Scarland), O was comes (Victoria).
ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Strinfined, EC1: 9 HC: 11 C Euch, Missa Drey's (Palestrina), the Rector, 6.30 E. Wesley In F. A: the Wilderness (Wesley), The Rector.
ST BRIDES, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Ch M and Euch, Benedicite (Ashfield), Ne inscorts, Domine (Byrd), Canon J Gates 6.30 Ch E. STRUNCT ID U. Semon in model, Canon J Oshes.
ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 M. LITARY (Tallist, Turn Thee nato the, O Lord (Boyer, Rev R Baylls. BEYILS.
ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND,
Pont Street, SW1: 11 Rev Suzziane Dunlewy;
E-30 Rev W a Cairts.

in Capedini Color:

T MacHard Catherbal, Old Aberbar 1 MS, Hide not thou thy face (Parrant), Sugar umina (Palestrina), Agross Del (Wills, Rev P Frence.

5T PAULE CATHEDRAL London: B RC: LAS M; 11 S Luch Missa sedix Cariani (Rowells), the Lementation (Bairstow), ven George Cassidy; 3.15 K Jackson in G. Lord, let me know mine end (Greene), Rev P Abram; 5 organ rachtal.

RUSSIAN OSTHODOX CATHEDRAL Englemore Cambers, London, SW: 10.30 Divine Jungy, Reven and medicional polyphony, Diocesan Bishop Met. Anthony.

ALL SAINTE, Margaret Street, Wi: 8, 5.15 LM. 10.20 MP; 11 HR. Missa Brevis (Walton); 6

E&B, Dr H W Bramma.

ALL SOUIS: Langham Place, Wi: 9 HC; 11 M. ALL SOULS LAnghum Place, Wil 9 HC; II M, Sev C Wright 6.30 E. arv Dr.J State. THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, Wi: Missa salve Regina (Steine). Seventh penitembal poster (Lassus). CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8, 12.15 HC; 10. Children's serv. 11 M. Super fluming (Palestring); 6 E. Rev E Rose. CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH, COMON-11, W1: 11 Sunday School CHOWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND. COVER Garden, WCC: 11.15 Rev 5 Hood; 6.30 Rev 1 McMahoo. FARM STREET, W1: 8, 9.30, 11.00, 12.30, 4.15, 6.15 Mass.
NOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 HC; 11 MS, Mr K Costi; 3, 7.30 informal s, Rev 5 Downliam.
THE ORATION, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 5, 9, 10, 11 Mass. Missa quarti toni (Victorial, Misserue mei (White); 12.30, 4.30, 7:3.30 V & E. Hei mihi Domine (Donato).
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Prema Gons, WS: 11 Holy Mass. Archbishop Y Chicken.

ST MARGARETS, Wanninger SWI: 10-M, Rev D Hun; II S Euch, Rev Dr A Harver; II.18 Abbey Euch, Very Rev Dr W Carr, 3 E; 545 organ sechal; 6.30 ES, Rev Dr A Harvey; organ season; 0.30 cs, 50 pt A traver; ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2-8 AC; 9.45 Buch; 11.30 Visitors serv, 8aw Clare Herbert; 2.45 Chinese serv, 8aw G Loe; 5 Choral E; 630 ES, Mrs F Hiller, ET MARY ARBOTS CHURCH, Reministra We, 1, 12.30 HC; 9.30 Parksh Buch, the Vicur; 11.15 Choral M, Rev m Auller; 6.30 R, Miss Literator. Living with Faith.

37 MARTIEBONE, Marylebone Road, WI: 8
HC; 11 Ch Euch, Missa asverna Christi munera
(Palestrica), The Estor.

37 MHCHAEL'S, Cornhill, EC3: 11 Ch Euch,
(Linisse John (Inverted), Von G Reid.

37 PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SWI: 8, 9 HC; 11
Euch, Missa in honovern Sancti Doming
(Robbra), Like as the hart (Howells), Rev C
Courtnuid. CHAPEL ROTAL OF ST PETER AD VINCUIA.
HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC. 41 M,
RESponses (Leighman, A. Credo good
Resemping Oversion), Ear P R C Abram.
CRAPEL ROYAL, St Supers Palece: 8.30 HC.
[1.15 MP. Greuer love Oreland), Canon D C
Comp. Gray.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Bampton Court Palace: 8.30

EC: [ M. Batteri stort service/plainsons. 0

Domine Deux (Jeffreys): 3.30 E. Moore: 1

Lambourdon serv. Let my complaint (Modey).

GEOSYENOR. CHAPEL. South Audier Street.

W1: 8.15 HC. 11 S Euch. Miss brevis (Leighton).

Drup, drup stort texts (Walmo), Bers 5 Hobbs.

GUELINS CHAPEL OF THE 6-AVOY. WCD: (1

R. Out of the Otep (Morky): 12.30 HC. Rev Dr P.

Gallowy.

ric Fenby will be remembered for his work as amanuensis to the blind and paralysed Fred-erick Delius in the last six years of the composer's life, an achievement without parallel in the history of

Fenby gave a classic account of this truly remarkable collaboration, of the will triumphing over the body, in Delius as I Knew Him, first published in 1936. It reached a wider audience when faithfully recreated in Ken Russell's memorable 1968 BBC television Omnibus film, Song of Summer, with Christopher Gable as the young Fenby and Max Adrian as Delius. Fenby himself called the film a "remarkable representation" with Adrian looking and behaving exactly as he remembered the composer. In the last painful months, as Delius's condition rapidly deteriorated and his wife Jelka underwent a critical operation for cancer, Fenby acted as nurse to the composer, who eventually died in his

N BEIER

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**Settled** 

Army

11.11

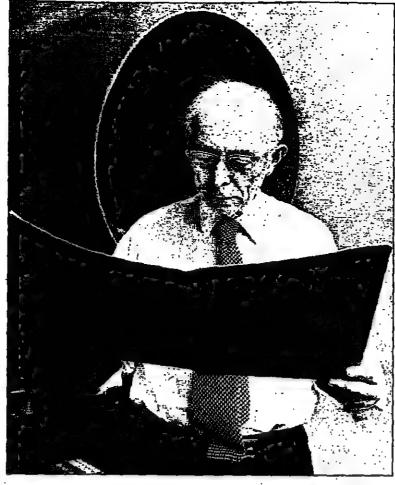
3.45 to \$

Eric William Fenby was born in Scarborough. His exceptional musical ability was apparent at an early age. Blessed with perfect pitch, he was largely self-taught. His initial training was as an organist, for which at the age of 12 he was appointed to Holy Trinity Church, Scarborough. At 16 he left school (where he had founded a small orchestra), and was articled to Claude Keeton, the leading organist and musician of the district. His various musical skills were soon much in demand, rehearsing local choral societies and amateur orchestras as well as accompanying singers. But it was Alick Maclean, the renowned conductor of the Scarborough Orchestra, who, recognising his compositional gifts, allowed him to conduct one or two of his youthful works at the morning Spa

Fenby's Roman Catholic faith remained central to him throughout his life and at one stage he even considered entering a Benedictine monastery. But in 1928 a chance hearing of a piece of music on the radio altered the course of his life. He was so profoundly moved by his first acquaintance with the music of Delius and by reading of the composer's condition — with music still within him that he was unable to communicate to paper - that he became obsessed with the idea of assisting him,

He wrote first a letter of admiration to Delius at his home in Grez-sur-Loing in France. The warm acknow-





ledgement that he received prompted him to write again, this time offering his services. In October 1928, the 22year-old Fenby crossed to France During the next six years he divided his time between France and England, and achieved the almost impossible in devising a method of dictation by which the ailing Delius could give life to those works, some already part sketched, that he had been unable to complete because of his physical

by this way an important body of works, instrumental, vocal, orchestral and choral, was added to the Delius canon, culminating in the astonishing achievement of the Songs of Farewell, a setting of five poems by Walt Whitman for double chorus and orchestra first performed in 1932.

After Delius's death, Fenby was "completely burnt out". In 1935 he helped Sir Thomas Beecham with the Covent Garden production of Delius's opera Koanga. The following year he became music adviser to Boosey & Hawkes, the firm that had published

Hospital, and after the war he founded the music department of the North Riding Training College at Scarbor-ough, which he directed from 1948 until 1962. On the death of Sir Thomas Beecham, he was appointed artistic director of the 1962 Bradford Delius Centenary Festival, after which he was appointed OBE. Through the vision of Sir Thomas

shall, a nurse at the Scarborough

Armstrong, Principal of the Royal Academy of Music, he was Professor of Harmony there from 1964 until 1977. Further recognition came his way in 1968 when he became chairman of the Composer's Guild of Great Britain.

In 1972 he joined the committee of the Royal Philharmonic Society, being made an honorary member in 1984. He also received honorary doctorates from the Universities of Jacksonville in Florida, Warwick and Bradford, and honorary fellowships or memberships of the Royal Academy of Music, the Royal College of Music and Trinity College of Music.

Fenby's later years were almost as closely associated with the music of Delius as the earlier ones had been, in 1971 he wrote a book on the composer, intended chiefly for younger readers. scores, his assistance in the editing of certain works was sought by the Delius Trust; as president of both the Delius Society in London and the Delius Association of Florida he took great delight in becoming far more active than such office normally requires.

His many years of writing, lecturing and broadcasting on the composer saw a happy fruition when he was invited to conduct Delius, both in England and America, in public and in the recording studio. To mark his 75th birthday he recorded for Unicorn-Kanchana The Fenby Legacy, comprising all the orchestral works he had taken down from Dellus's dictation.

That same year he participated in the Yorkshire TV documentary Song of Farewell, for which he revisited Grezsur-Loing. His last appearance was in the Delius Trust-sponsored 1993 hourlong documentary Discovering Delius, which has yet to be televised in this country

A final, fitting tribute, and one that gave him a great deal of pleasure, was paid to him on the occasion of his 90th birthday last April. Fenby on Delius. compiled and edited by Stephen Lloyd. took the form of a collection of more than 50 years of his writings, lectures and broadcasts on the composer.

Eric Penby was a man of great personal charm, sensitivity and humility. He is survived by his wife Rowena. In 1944 he married Rowena Marand a son and daughter.

#### LEO ROSTEN

Leo Rosten, author, died on February 19 aged 88. He was born in April 11. 1908

LEO ROSTEN was a prolific author, but his claim to immortality rests principally on one book, The Education of Hyman Kaplan. It was published in America in 1937, long before ethnicity had become an issue there and newcomers were still anxious to lose all traces of their origins and become good, all-round Americans. As a start they had to artend English evening class-es. Rosten's character Hyman Kaplan was the star of one such class, eager, zealous and blithely unaware of the torments he inflicts on the English language and on his long-suffering English teacher, Mr Parkhill.

One critic complained that 'Jewish dialect jokes are not Jewish at all, but the confections of anti-Semites who delight in ridiculing and sland-ering Jews". But the book struck an immediate chord among millions of people who could corroborate the events in Mr Parkhill's class from their own experience and who could hear tortured Kaplanesque English on every side.

Rosten tried to recapture his success with The Return of Hyman Kaplan (1959) and O Kaplan! My Kaplan! (1976). Neither made the same impact. But his 1968 The Joys of Yiddish did better. It was a serious lexicon of Yiddish in English written in a lighthearted way with a rich collection of Jewish jokes to illustrate the different words, as well as what he called "Yinglish" — Yiddish terms and forms of expression which had made their way into the English language, it became a best-seller, for if Hyman Kaplan's generation were impatient to become American. their sons and grandsons, having been born American, were anxious to recover something of their Jewishness.

Leo Caivin Rosten was born in Lodz, Poland, but was only

lris Freeman, solicitor

and biographer, died of

cancer on February 17

aged 69. She was born on

July 7, 1927.

TO BE called "gifted with a

first-rate intellect and power of

expression" by someone of

praise indeed. It does not

immediately bring to mind

someone who adored the ro-

mance of life, an attractive

woman with a warm smile

that never seemed to leave her

reers, an example to those

as a child psychologist, then

passion for everything in life.

Freeman believed she should keep her professional

careers on hold to bring up her

two sons and daughter. She guided them gently until they went up to Oxford, inspiring

them with her infectious love

of literature, from A. A. Milne

to Shakespeare. When her

younger son was too lazy to

aloud to him: he won a schol-

arship to Balliol. All three

The diplomacy she used

with her children worked in

children excelled.

read textbooks, she read them

parents moved to the United States, settling in Chicago. He took a doctorate in political science at Chicago University, and went on to study under Harold Laski at the London School of Economics.

He took various jobs to pay for his studies and worked for a time at a night school for immigrants. He had a sharp ear and a retentive memory and Hyman Kaplan grew out of his experience. The stories



first appeared in The New Yorker before they were brought together in book form published under the penname of Leonard O. Ross. Rosten was a university teacher by then, and as a serious academic did not care to be associated with light fiction.

Rosten taught sociology at Columbia, Yale and Berkeley and became a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Science and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was elected an honorary Fellow of the LSE in 1975.

He was the editor of A Guide to the Religions of America (1957), and author of the curiously titled 112 Gripes About the French. In 1939 he was placed at the head of a team of researchers to produce a definitive history of Hollywood. It was a scholarly but accessible work which had his own light touches, but, published on December 7, 1941, it passed unnoticed. Rosten's knowledge of the movie industry, however, led to his appointment as chief of the motion picture division of the Office of Facts and Figures in Washington, and in 1942 he became Deputy Director of War Information.

Rosten's interest in Holly wood, initially academic, became something of an obsession. He wrote six screenplays, all of them forgettable and indeed forgotten. He was also author of a number of novels, none of them of any great merit, but one of which Captain Newman MD (1962), about an army psychiatrist some of whose patients could have passed for Hyman Kaplan, was made into a major film with Gregory Peck

After The Joys of Yiddish was published in 1968, there was an attempt to turn it into a musical. But, better read than sung, it never reached Broadway. Rosen followed it up with Hooray for Yiddish! (1983) and The Joys of Yinglish (1989), but though both sparkled with wit, the public's passion for Yiddish had peaked.

Handsome, and with a taste for Savile Row suits, Rosten looked every inch the WASP. Yiddish sounded almost strange on his lips, but his love for the language derived from his love for a vanished world which placed him well to the right of both the liberal Jewish establishment and the American aca-

demic establishment. He was a clubbable man. and his years at the LSE had left him with a lingering fondness for London, which he visited at least once a year and where he was a member of the Savile, the Reform and the Garrick.

Leo Rosten married Priscilla Mead in 1935. She predeceased him. Then, in 1960 he married Gertrude Zimmerman. Gertrude survives him together with a son and two daughters of his first

#### STANLEY PEARSON

Stanley Pearson, the Manchester United and England forward, died He was born on January 11, 1919.

STAN PEARSON was an outstanding member of the first of Sir Matt Busby's three great teams at Manchester United. As a team they were the least successful in terms of trophies, winning the 1948 FA Cup and the 1952 League title. But many older supporters still hold that they were the best — certainly the best to watch.

That may be debatable, but there are strong arguments for suggesting that the forward line of Delaney, Morris, Rowlev. Pearson and Mitten was the most lethal of all in a team geared to attack. As flambovant and colourful as their red shirts, the team provided entertainment for the huge postwar crowds.

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The 1948 Cup Final, in which they beat Blackpool 4-2, has gone down as the out-6-4 win at Aston Villa in the fifth round, after leading 5-1 at half-time, captures the flavour of their approach. "In the days when we were playing we were lucky," Pearson once reflected. "I can never remember at any time going any-where and playing for a draw. We went to win, and that was the attitude of all teams then."

Pearson was a key figure at inside left both as a creator and as a fine finisher. "He was the general," a team-mate said. "He could play one touch or he could dwell on it." Pearson's preference was for one touch, and he enjoyed an almost telepathic understanding with Charlie Mitten, his left winger, and Henry Cockburn the left half. Their triangular work was a feature of United's play.

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They should have played the three of us together for England," Mitten frequently maintained, most loudly when England lost in the 1950 World Cup to the USA, a team United had beaten earlier that summer on their own tour of America. As it was, Pearson

TRUSTEE ACTS

played only eight times for England, scoring five goals, including the pair which beat 1952. The war inevitably affected his career, as it did half his team-mates.

Dellus's dictated works, and he

brought to their attention the music of

Although Fenby had sporadically continued with his own compositions.

which included a symphony, a cello

concerno and a choral setting of Francis

Thompson's The Hound of Heaven, he

later destroyed them all in the firm

belief that "only genius matters". One work that has survived is the delightful

pastiche overture, Rossini on Ilkla

Moor. Through his acquaintance with

Charles Laughton, he was invited to

provide the music for Alfred Hitch-

cock's 1939 film Jamaica Inn. but the

prospect of further film work was

terminated by the outbreak of the

Fenby saw service first in the Royal

Artillery at Blandford, Dorset, trans-

ferring before long to the Royal Army

Education Corps at Bulford, Wiltshire,

where he conducted the Southern

Command Orchestra. Eventually he

received a commission to run RAEC

courses at Cuerdon Hall, Preston.

Second World War.

the young Benjamin Britten.

Stanley Pearson joined United from Salford boys as a 17year-old in 1936, making his league debut only a year later in the second division after only two reserve games. United won promotion that season, 1937-38, and Pearson was beginning to establish himself when war broke out. He spent the war in India

and Burma, most of it, by his own account, playing football for army sides. He returned in February 1946 to play the last part of the transitional 1945-46 season under United's new manager, Matt Busby. It was to be the start of United's emergence under Busby, from being the second side in Manchester to becoming the biggest dub in the country.

TRUSTEE ACTS

The nucleus of the side -Carey, Aston, Pearson, Mitten, Rowiey, Cockburn, Chilton and Anderson - had assembled before the war, Morris arriving during it. It was quickly evident that Busby had rich raw material to work with.

The third round tie at Aston Villa suggested something special was occurring. Pearson scored twice, including the vital sixth goal to end Villa's fightback — "one of the most valuable he's ever scored for the club," Busby said, Even more valuable ones were to follow on the way to Wembley. Before the semi-final against Derby the tension got to him and he was sick; he went out to score a hat-trick in United's 3-1 win. In the Final he scored United's decisive third goal.

The League championship took longer to win, finally arriving in 1952 as most of the team approached the veteran stage. They were still capable of dazzling performances, ending Arsenal's challenge with a 6-I victory at Old Trafford to clinch the championship, Pearson scoring twice.

He stayed another 18 months. In all he played 304 league marches and scored 125 goals for United before joining Bury. He ended his professional career at Chester as player-manager and then manager. When that did not work out, he took over a newsagents and sub-post office in Prestbury, but his love of football remained and he was a season ticket holder at Old Trafford.

her legal disputes. To settle a threatened strike, she shut Jocelyn Stevens, then manag-His wife Elsie predeceased him. He is survived by a son. ing the Daily Express, and the union representative in a

IRIS FREEMAN room, telling them that they could not come out until they were ready to talk. That was how to treat spoilt children. she told them, drawing on her

child psychology. It worked. iris Margaret Freeman born Iris Alberge - came from a comfortable middleclass background, her father running a silk business. She read psychology at University College London under the eminent Professor Birt. Between 1948 and 1951

iris Freeman had four cadaunted by a midlife job change and to working mothers. She became an eminent employment law solicitor. though qualifying only in her forties, having already worked staying at home for the fulltime career of mother. She only began putting pen to paper, for a biography of Lord Denning, when she was in her sixties. She was working on a biography of Lord Goodman when she died. The diversity of careers reflected Freeman's

> worked as an educational psychologist with problem children. In 1950, she married David

Freeman, then studying to be a solicitor. He established DJ Freeman, one of the most dynamically successful City practices. The Freemans were team and, as she enjoyed discussing with him human interest cases, at the age of 40 she took articles and joined his firm. As a partner, with his inspiration, she set up the employment law department an area of law then in its infancy.

She acted for many prominent businesses but her cases rarely made headlines - she liked to smooth out problems before the press could take an interest. She was not a public person and acrimonious court battles with glorified victories were not her way.

She was not a believer in "isms" and had no time for feminism and positive disway she encouraged women in DJ Freeman, and prided herself on the firm's high percentage of female partners.

In 1993 she was recommended to Hutchinson to write a biography of Lord Denning and she threw herself into the task with her usual enthusiasm. He later became a close friend. Reviewing Lord Denning: A Life, the MP David Mellor described it as "fully-researched ... written with a love and affection towards its subject that never degenerates into hagiography"; and Lord Hailsham called the book "perceptively and entertainingly written".

Freeman mixed among famous faces. Prime Ministers such as Harold Wilson and Margaret Thatcher, business tycoons, judges, academics. But she treated everyone with equal interest and respect. Fame meant so little to her that she sometimes failed to recognise a well-known face next to her at a dinner. People warmed to her for that reason.

Nothing gave her greater pleasure than her family including nine grandchildren - or working in the garden. She and her husband shared an insatiable love of literature and the theatre. For 25 years they were governors of the Royal Shakespeare Company. That was the nearest she got to a fifth career, her earliest desire, to be an actress. She is survived by her

husband, two sons and a daughter.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

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#### FUEL OUTLOOK UTMOST ECONOMY ESSENTIAL WEATHER GETS WORSE

Although coal stocks have improved, the utmost economy is officially stated to be essential because of deteriorating weather. The Ministry of Fuel and Power stated last

The weather is still deteriorating. Snow is falling heavily over most of England, and frequent snow showers are to be expected in districts not now affected. Temperatures day and night will be at freezing point except in coastal districts of Scotland, where day temperatures will be slightly above freezing. Winds are strong, with gales expected locally in the south. Visibility in the North Sea is poor, and there are very heavy seas running off the north-east coast, where ten ships are still weatherbound. The further outlook is not

encouraging.
Power stations' stocks rose again on Thursday by about half a day's supply, except in the London area, where additions to stock were the lowest for the past four days. The right main London power stations' stock again rose only very slightly. Gas coal stocks were maintained on Thursday in the London area at 221,000 tons, but the position is far

#### ON THIS DAY February 22, 1947

类型标识法

The winter of 1947 seemed never-ending. Some idea of its widespread effect can be seen by the announcement from the Ministry of Fuel and Power that weekly newspapers and periodicals that had been suspended might resume regular publication soon.

from satisfactory, and the utmost economy is

Coal savings on Thursday amounted to 31,690 tons, a decrease of about 15 per cent. on the savings of Thursday last week. This decrease is particularly noticeable in the "white" area, where savings have fallen by 30 per cent. If coal stocks at power stations in the white" area are to be maintained, this increase in electricity consumption must be arrested, and all consumers must increase their efforts to economize to the fullest extent. Total coal savings since the restrictions began

The Ministry of Fuel stated last night:-All weekly periodicals and such weekly newspapers as are temporarily suspending publication this week and next owing to the fuel crisis may resume regular publication in the week beginning Monday, March 3. Printing, processing and other production work should be resumed at the latest possible moment to make such publications possible.

PERIODICALS AGAIN

SHIPPING WARNED OF ICE-FLOES Snow fell over a great part of the country yesterday. Villages were again isolated and cleared roads were blocked once more. Watch being kept on the movement of ice-floes in the North Sea, and shipping has been warned.

An Admiralty spokesman said yesterday that there was a tendency for the ice-floes to drift south. It was probable that a big ice-floe and a smaller one a short distance south of it would eventually straddle the shipping routes in the mouth of The Thames.

Dislocation of train and tramear services may occur this morning because of ice jamming points. Delays were experienced last

At midnight the temperature in London was 25deg, which was ideg, lower than the

#### NEWS

#### Bridgewater police may be charged

■ Two former police officers face possible criminal charges after three men jailed for the murder of Carl Bridgewater walked free yesterday.

The detective constables allegedly forged a confession which was instrumental in sending the men to prison for 18 years. Cheers greeted Vincent Hickey, his cousin Michael and James Robinson, who were released on unconditional bail. A fourth 

#### German paper stands by Rifkind slur

■ A German newspaper which is closely aligned to Chancellor Kohl stood by its description of the Foreign Secretary as "the Jew

#### Drug daughter jailed

The pregnant daughter of a prominent businessman was jailed for Il years for trying to smuggle co-....Page 3 caine into Britain ..

#### Girls missing The families of two French girls

were searching London's West End for the missing 16-year-Fashion furore

#### Twenty schoolgirls have sparked a

row by starring for Vivienne Westwood at the start of London Fashion Week. Top 40 discord

Record companies are giving away so many free and discounted singles to boost their success in the Top 40 that the BBC says the chart has lost its credibility...... Page 9

#### Fight for faith

The Archbishop of York will oppose the establishment of American-style tele-evangelism TV and radio stations in Britain.. Page 10

#### Rush to Trinity

After three decades of being shunned. Trinity College Dublin is resuming its traditional role as the Oxbridge of Ireland ... Page 13

#### Beigrade change

A massive street party was planned after the appointment of a new mayor ended 50 years of Socialist rule in Belgrade, the Serbian capital.... .... Page 14

#### Invitation to Queen

The Oueen will be formally invited by President Weizman to pay her 

#### Rivals for Jiang

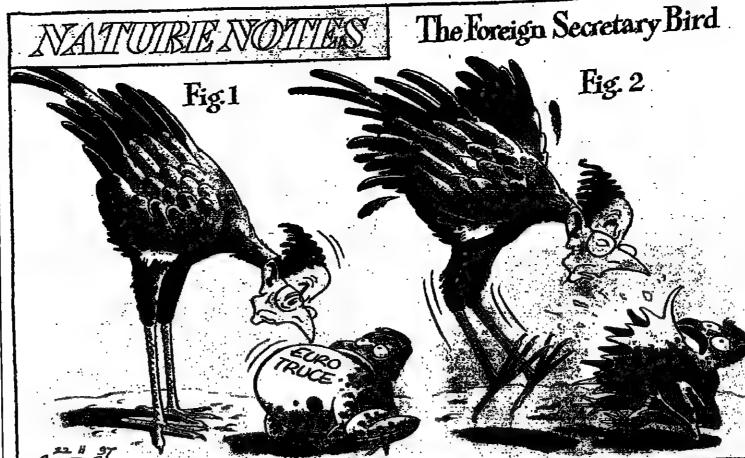
President Jiang Zemin of China has failed to consolidate his grip on power, according to a CIA

#### Nato opposition

Russia maintained stiff opposition to Nato's expansion eastward at the end of talks in Moscow with Madeleine Albright ...... Page 17

#### Sunday cricket seeks wider appeal

■ One-day cricket will undergo a revolution if proposals are approved by the English Cricket Board. Surrey want to change their name to the Surrey Lions, play pop music between overs and play under floodlights in the Axa Life League ........... Page 1



Guide in perpiexity: Dr Sacks's book deserves to become a key text...... Page 23 Too long to languish: It must never be allowed to happen again ...... Page 23 Love, Fidel: The real pity is that the young Cuben writer of love letters grew into a

#### CHRUMAES

long-winded old Communist

Eric Fenby, musician; Leo Rosten, author: Iris Freeman, solicitor; Stanley Pearson, Manchester United

dismayed at the quality and depth of our public conversation as we approach the Millennium and think about our collective future ...... Page 22 Simon Jenkins: The grand house in its estate is Britain's most distinctive and lasting contribution to European cul-

ture. Nobody does them like

#### 

Life insurance and genetic tests; anti-Semitism in Shakespeare plays; Oxbridge

#### \$86 m payout: Binder Hamlyn, former auditor of Britannia Security, has agreed to pay \$86 million to ADT, the electronic security group, over the acquisition of Britannia in 1990 ..... Page 27

NatWest claim: NatWest is

\$1.6191 and DM2.7213 to

believed to be seeking up to £10 million compensation ..... Page 27 from Tesco ... Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 19.3 points to 4336.8. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 97.3 to 97.4 after a rise from \$1.6112 to

Football: Patrick Kluivert,

the Ajax and Holland for-

ward, has turned down

£25,000 a week with Chelsea

to join AC Milan ..... Page 52

Cricket: England's cricketers

are beginning to reap the

benefits of the sort of fitness

regime that has offended

traditionalists.....Page 49

Rugby union: Northern

clubs have a chance to make

an impact in the Pilkington

# Modern marriage: Mo-

bile phones and videos adorn the set of English Touring Opera's Mar-riage of Figaro, but the surface glitz cannot compensate for lack of characterisation and ... Page 20

Debussy rhapsody: Michael Tilson Thomas and the LSO provided revelations their Debussy celebration.... \_\_\_ Page 20 Fuller figured: Sixties film guru Sam Fuller is

alive and well, as Channel

4's season starting on

Tuesday reveals .. Page 21

Keep your dog safe; motorcy-

Mother Courage: Madeleine Albright ...... Page 9
Zero hour: Criminals be warned..... Food & DrinkPages 43-49

#### Weekend

E-Day wait: Austin Pages I, 2



Property: Feng shul; gatehouses ..... Pages 7-10 Home life Pressure on women to marry \_Page I5

#### 10 15

Win a TV/video....Page 3 Careers. Young dudes.... We recommend .. Page li

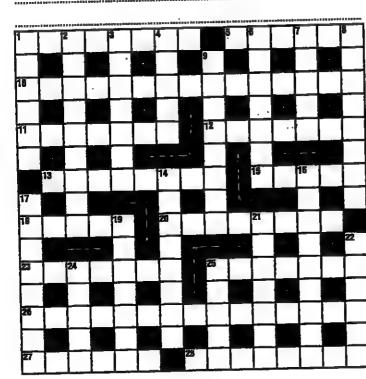


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#### THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,410

A E20 book token will be awarded to the senders of the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London El 9DD. The names of the winners and the solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address



- 1 Virus infection in birds sounds awful nuisance (4,4). 5 Game that's possibly based on
- 10 ... and another that's likely to go
- to sudden death finish (7.8). 11 Former unit returned discharge
- 12 Sort of surgery that enabled the
- 13 Young man after money, a bellig-
- erent American (8). 15 Took the underground back, coming out here? (5).
- 18 Continue imitating Miss Bell (5).
- 20 Supports for wood and metal dubs (8). 23 Debate sounds as if it's a sporting
- event (7). 25 Is it useless for those fighting at
- the front? (4-3). 26 Training with anaesthetic in
- medical group (7.8). 27 With rail connections, they stand
- by for flights (6). 28 Self-defence as justified by New-
- man (8). Solution to Puzzle No 20,404

- Litter dropped by swine producing long dispute (6).

  2 Flat is cleaned inside (6.3).
- Quiet promenade bringing cou-ples together (7). Seeing that evil dominates the
- church (5). Broadcast from early edition cut
- Over the top I had erected something similar (5). 8 As I can represent a couple of
- 9 How Robin looked with a squint
- 14 In France, he gets into golf club in an impudent way (8). 16 Orchestra getting on dressing (9). 17 Cavairy officer on magnificent
- bay (8). 19 Sitting on the fence in colourless
- 21 Thoroughgoing revolutionary (7). 22 A second English degree for very changeable type (6).
- 24 Source of strength one revealed in news broadcast (5).
- 25 Rising shares hanger-on depends

Solution to Puzzle No 20,409

HEGESTEL NAPPING
THED CHALLENGER
Tethin, Bridgend, Midd Glamorgan: F
Buckinghamshire

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun selt: 5,29 pm 5.43 pm Bristot 5 29 pm to 6.59 am Bristot 5 38 pm to 7 08 am Edinburgh 5.32 pm to 7 19 am Manchester 5 33 pm to 7 19 am Penzance 5 52 pm to 7 18 am

TOMORROW Sun sells 5 30 pm **5un dse≤:** 8.53 am London 5.30 pm to 6.57 am Bristol 5.40 pm to 7.05 am Edinburgh 5.34 pm to 7.17 am Manchester 5.35 pm to 7.08 am Pengance 5.54 pm to 7.16 am

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lighest day tempt Heaftyne arport ly, 13C (52°); lowest day marc Lock, , Heghland, 5C (41°); highest sameline; feghand, 104° highest sameline; , North Yorishne 7677



☐ General: there will be a lot of cloud over England and Wales. The west will catch some drizzle but the east should be dry and bright, with even some sunshine in places, it will remain windy but very mild.

windy but very mild.

Western parts of Scotland and Northern Ireland will have some rain or drizzle, heavier and more persistent in the evening. The east, though mostly cloudy, will be mainly dry and bright. Winds will be up to gate force in the west but it will be mild associated. west but it will be mild everywhere.

London, S E England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Channel Isles, Central N England: mainly dry with bright or surry spells. Wind

mainly southwest, fresh or strong. Very mild. Max 12C (54F). S W England, S Wales, N Wales, N W England, Lake District, lale of Men: mostly cloudy, some patchy

Majorcal Maj

Changes to the chart from noon: complex low I will move eastwards with little change; low I will move east and deepen a little; low M will move east and deepen

7 - 10° - 1 • 14

coastal drizzle and hill fog Wind southwest to south, mainly strong. Mild. Max 11C (52F).

....Page 30

☐ N E Englend, Borders, Edin-burgh & Dundes, Aberdeen, Morey Firth: mainly dry with bright or sunny spells. Wind mainly southwest, strong, locally gale. MRd. Max 11C

(52F).

S W Scotland, Gittsgow, Central Highlands, Argylf, N trelend: mostly cloudy; hill tog; some drizzle at times. Wind southwest to south, strong or gale. Mild. Mex 10C (50F).

N E Scotland, N W Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: cloudy with periods of rain or drizzle; hill tog. Wind anythwest to south, gale or severesouthwest to south, gale or severe gale. Max 8-10C (46-50F).

day: continuing very windy, with rain or showers in all areas.

0.29 0.02 0.04 0.01 0.16 0.01 0.07 0.11

001

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84 5

Warm book

Cold front

S Friedo
S Paulo
Selzburg
Santago
Seoul
Seoul
Sing'por
Strasb'ng
Sydney
Tel Man
Tansell
Tools
Vancius

Cloudy Drizzle Overcas Rain Sunny Steet and surmy showers **Lightning** 

Wind speed Sea conditions

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**NSINESS** TODAY

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TODAY

Monday \_\_\_ Tuesday U Wednesday Thursday Friday

**WORKING WEEK** 

Airport chief prepares for take-off PAGE 29



**BUSINESS** 

Graham Searjeant asks if banks have grown up PAGE 31



SPORT

Why the family comes first for Sam Hammam **PAGES 46-52** 

THE HIDDEN **ASSETS OF CHIVAS AND GLENLIVET** 

PAGE 29

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22 1997

High Court finds for Hoechst to settle battle over patent

# BP faces \$100m damages bill

By Fraser Nelson

BRITISH PETROLEUM is facing damages of more than \$100 million after the High Court found that it had infringed a patent belonging to Hoechst, the German chemicals group.

The oil company is under-stood to be heading for the heaviest patent damages claim in British legal history. It was found to have been using a filter patented by Hoechst Celanese for six years, and could now be forced to hand over every penny of profit that it made.

BP, the world's largest pro-ducer of acetic acid, said

phasing out all use of the patented filter, it was still appealing against the deci-sion. It added that the ruling would not affect either of its two acid production plants in

A spokeswoman for BP said: This is a historical matter. BP Chemicals was using the filters to just a tiny proportion of our acetate production streams many years ago. We have almost com-pletely phased it out."

However, the patented filter is still being used in one of its two acetic acid plants, and is unlikely to be phased out until-

pay Huechst compensation for the full period until the filter is completely out of use.

The argument centres on a filter which purifies acetic acid by removing certain iodides, allowing the cheaper and fast-er production of vinyl acetate from acetic acids,

Hoechst argues that if BP had not used the filter, which it calls a "guard bed", the company might not have been able to carve such a command of the market.

BP is playing down the importance of the filter, and says it would be disappointed if it had to pay its rival as much as \$25 million in comarguing that the guard bed was employed as an extra in

the production line. Mr Justice Laddie told BP: You are going to say that the guard bed is the tail and not the dog, and it will be crucial to your submission that you are right."

He indicated that Hoechst stood to gain more by taking the unusual step of claiming for the profits that BP made from the acid, rather than the well-trodden route of applying for damages.

Industry sources said that if Hoechst did opt for the profits, it could stand to gain compensation of up to \$130 million

rather than the \$50 million to \$100 million range expected at

As BP sold most of the refined acid to its subsidiaries, Hoechst could claim even more money if the court agreed to evaluate the acid on what BP could have sold it for in the market rather than its in-house rate.

BP has now been instructed to hand over details of how much acid was produced in the two plants over the six years, how much it was sold

for and to whom. This is the second time that BP has lost the case against Hoechst. Three years ago, it

appeared in court in America

charged with infringing the patent on the same filter in the same process, it was found liable, and agreed to damages of \$10 million. It also decided to appeal then, but the appeal was rejected.

The two companies will meet in the High Court again next month, when Hoechst will say whether it has decided to opt for the court deciding the amount of damages or to take a risk on the profits. The final damages payout is not expected to come through until

Hoechst Celanese was represented by Taylor Joynson Garrett, the City solicitors.

services side of the business. ADT's case also relied on a

verbal confirmation of Britan-

nia's accounts given by Mar-

tin Bishop, a partner in the accountants' New York office.

Gerry Acher, chairman of the audit faculty of the insti-tute of Chartered Accountants,

England and Wales, called on

liability laws so that profes-

sional advisers will not face

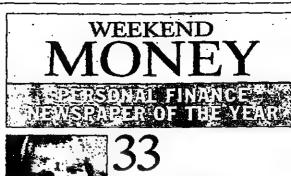
BDO Binder Hamlyn sub-

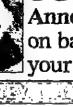
sequently formed a new part-

nership, which joined Arthur Andersen Worldwide in 1994.

The existing partnership is now Binder Hamlyn.

disproportionate claims.





Anne Ashworth on banking in your supermarket

What the strong pound means



The cost of making the break from **British Gas** 

BANKING

Sainsbury's Bank. A treat for

the jaded saver? MONEY GUIDE



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# Pearson sells holding in **Hong Kong** broadcaster

PEARSON, the media and entertainment group, dismantled the key component of its. the sale of its 10 per cent stake in Television Broadcasts, Hong Kong's leading broadcaster, for

Elll.l militon. Pearson acquired the TVB interest only two years ago, paying £103.6 million, Greg Dyke, head of Pearson Television, said: "Our original plan was to use it to expand our investments in Asia."

TVB and Pearson made only a little progress together. Their biggest accomplishment was creating a satellite TV joint venture in India, called Home TV. The venture will not be affected by Pearson's withdrawal from TVB. Pearson newsletters and magazines. sald it would pursue other opportunities in Asia, but did not provide details.

The TVB stake was sold to Shaw Brothers, a cinema and entertainment group in Hong Kong which owns the world's largest library of Chinese

BUSINESS TODAY:

FTSE 100 4336.8 (-19.5) Yield 3.63% FTSE All Share 2115.45 (-7.8) Nikites 19034.54 (-17.17) New York: 1,5192 (1,5114) 2,7352 (2,7226) 9,2025 (9,1965) 2,3738 (2,3981) 198,84 (198,32) 97,2 (97,3)

1.6830° (1.6863) 6.7040° (5.6893) 1.4715° (1.4769) 123.28° (122.55) 103.8 (103.6) Tokyo close Yen 122.83

Brent 15-day (likey) \$19.65 (\$19.80) London clase \_\_\_ \$353.75 (\$346.35) \* denotes mádday trading price

films. Shaw already owned 23.5 per cent of TVB. .. Pearson received £3.5 miltion in dividends over two years from the TVB investment, but they did not cover the cost of capital. The sale

roceeds will neld to cut ded The TVB sale appears to be part of Pearson's efforts to focus the group, eliminating peripheral and non-control investments. Majorie Scardino, the new chief executive, is expected to announce a series of disposals over the next few years. Analysis said they could include Pearson's remaining 4.3 per cent stake in BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster, the half stake in the Lazards investment house and perhaps some

In the longer term, the City believes that Pearson may sell Pearson Television, which includes Thames TV, Select TV. Grundy and FT Television. Mr Dyke would not comment on speculation that he would like to purchase the division in a management buyout. He said he had not discussed the idea with Ms Scardino.

in a separate development Pearson said it would provide more details about its investigation into Penguin's accounting on March 17, when its annual results are released. Pearson dismissed an employce in Penguin's New Jersey office this month for apparent ly giving unauthorised discounts to book retailers. Pearson is taking a charge of up to £100 million to cover what it describes as the improper accounting.

Shield soars

despite

statement

SHARES in Shield Diagnos-

tics leapt another £1.10 to £5.26

yesterday in spite of publica-tion of a carefully worded

statement intended to damp

down speculation.



Philippe Bourguignon, chairman and chief executive of Euro Disney who steered the company through its deep financial crisis, is leaving for a post at Club Mediterranee. Gilles Pelisson, president and CEO, will take on the role

#### **Auditor pays** ADT £50m to settle dispute world as the BDO Binder BDO Binder Hamlyn, the former accountancy partner-Hamlyn had used another firm to audit the security

ship of Binder Hamlyn, has agreed to end a seven-year battle and pay nearly \$86 million (£50 million) in an outof-court settlement with ADT. the American electronic sec-

urity provider.
This is almost half the amount the firm was ordered to pay in damages to ADT by the High Court in December 1995 and thereby removes the threat of £34 million personal liability faced by 150 former

The firm said the settlement. which consists of a \$77.5 million immediate payment, with \$8.6 million deferred, fell within its insurance cover. It has withdrawn an appeal scheduled for later this year.

John Newton, a Binder Hamlyn spokesman, expressed mixed feelings about the settlement but added: "The costs and uncertainty of the outcome of litigation have influenced us in taking this essentially commercial decision. We firmly believe the original judgment was unsound and we are aware that there was considerable professional interest in following the progress of our appeal hear-ing. Nevertheless, this settle-ment removes uncertainty from our partners and draws

time costs of the case." The dispute centred on the BDO Binder Hamlyn's auditing of Britannia Security Group in 1989, a US firm that ADT bought for £105 million in 1990. After the acquisition ADT discovered profits had been hugely inflated and that the company's real value was £40 million. ADT's suit against BDO Binder Hamlyn shocked the accountancy

# Rabbatts resigns from Centrica

By Eric Reguly

HEATHER RABBATTS, believed to be Britain's best paid town hall chief, yesterday resigned as non-executive director of Centrica, which demerged from British Gas earlier this week. Ms Rabbatts, £115,000-a-

all of her time to fixing

Lambeth's affairs, was behind

her decision to resign. The

Lambeth position she took

two years ago is known as the worst job in local govern-

ment." Ms Rabbatts, 4l, a

former barrister, argued that

Shield, whose shares were year chief executive of Lam-150p at the start of the month, beth council, said: "It was a is working on a test that could matter of personal regret" that replace cholesterol screening. The statement included a let-ter from George Miller of the she had submitted her resig-Pressure from Tory and Medical Research Council Liberal Democrat councillors. Wolfson Centre of Preventive who said she should devote

Medicine in London who is coordinating a trial of 15 different markers of heart disease. One of these is AFT, made by Shield, which was shown in a pilot study to hold some promise and this appeared to be confirmed by a preliminary analysis of results.

joining the Centrica board would not affect her commitment to Lambeth. In an effort

to gain support, she even offered to donate her £20,000 a year Centrica salary to the mayor's charity. Roy Gardner, Centrica's

chief executive, recruited Ms Rabbatts to help repair Centrica's reputation for shoddy service. She was approached by Centrica in December and would have attended her first board meeting this week. Mr Gardner said: "I am very sorry that Ms Rabbatts has had to resign

Her departure leaves Patricia Mann, a vice-president of J Walter Thompson, the advertising agency, as the only

#### **NatWest** seeks £10m from Tesco

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

NATWEST is believed to be seeking up to £10 million compensation from Tesco after the supermarket group ditched a five-year contract with the bank and signed a new deal with Royal Bank of

Last week Tesco said it was linking with RBS to provide financial services. NatWest had provided Tesco's Clubcard Plus debit card since last June. Lord MacLaurin of Kneb-

worth, Tesco chairman, resigned from the board of NatWest after the new deal with RBS was confirmed. David Malpas retired as managing director of Tesco yesterday after nearly 30 years with the company. He is succeeded by Terry Leahy, who becomes

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Allied higher

Allied Leisure, the ten-pin bowling company, reported pre-tax profits of £1.4 milliom for the six months to December 31, up from £515,000 previously. Earnings rose to 1.07p a share from 0.63p. The interim dividend is 0.33p a share (nil). Ken Scobie, chairman, said trading "continues to be patchy." The shares fell 6p to 46p.



Hanson shareholders yes-terday voted overwhelmingly for the demerger of Energy Group, Its shares will trade separately in London and New York from Monday.

The split will give shareholders one Energy share for every ten Hanson shares held. On the socalled grey market in London yesterday Energy shares fell 64 p to S20p.

#### Talks accord

Britain and America reported progress in talks over the past three days toward a new free-market "open skies" aviation agreement A State Department negotiator said there was progress "to-ward an agreed text for a new bilateral accord".

#### Share placing

Bakyrchik Gold raised E7.1 million via a share placing in London yesterday. The new shares were placed at 200p each and represent about 9.9 per cent of existing capital. After the placing Indo-china Goldfields, a Canadian company, will own 27.9 per cent of Bakyrchik.

#### Stordata up

Stordata Solutions, the car security and data storage company, earned pre-tax profits of £1.5 million in DISSIDENT Christian Salvesen shareholders who opthe year to November 30, pose the demerger of the compared with losses of company's Aggreko equip-ment hire subsidiary, are £473,000 in the previous year. Earnings were 1.25p seeking the support of institua share (1.27p loss). A final dividend of 0.3p a share makes a total of 0.5p (nil). tional investors for their campaign against the board.

John Grant, formerly finance director of LucasVarity. who was recruited by the dissidents to lead their fight, will take the battle to the City next week, meeting institutions before a shareholders meeting on March 3.

Shareholders are to vote on a proposed special 34p foreign income dividend worth a total of £100 million. They have already been paid an en-hanced dividend of £50 million. In the second half of the year, they will be asked to vote on spinning off Aggreko, the



# Christian Salvesen rebels seek support in the City

By Sarah Cunningham

equipment hire business.

Salvesen's board, which last year turned down a bid approach by Hays, the logistics company, unveiled details of the proposed FID yesterday. It will be combined with a share consolidation to have the same effect as a share buyback. The rebels, including Sir Gerald Elliot, a former chairman and a member of the Salvesen family, want the proposal thrown out and to replace Chris Masters, the executive, with Mr Grant, Sir Gerald, who has a 2 per cent stake, claims to have the support of shareholders —

about 10 per cent of the capital. The family controls 38 per cent

of the group.

Mr Grant said the group should be able to deliver value through growth. "Just giving money back to shareholders is defeatist," he said.

Capita uses placing

to fund acquisitions

THE Capita Group, the outsourcing and professional support services provider, will its of £544,000 on income of £6.6 million.

Capita is also buying the 50

# Ex-Swithland directors jailed

TWO former directors of a Leicestershire car dealership were yesterday sent to prison for a multimillion-pound fraud after a joint investigation by the Serious Fraud Office, Leicester fraud squad and Customs and Excise (Robert Miller writes). John Hayes, founder and

chairman of the Swithland Group, received a five-year sentence and was disqualified from acting as a company director for ten years.

David Sharratt, 51, Swithland finance director, received a three-and-a-half year sentence and was barred as a

company director for seven-years. Sentencing at Oxford Crown Court, Judge Richard May said: "Those who loaned money in reliance on the figures you gave lost it all or a great deal of it. This strikes at the heart of the trust on which

commerce must depend."

become the UK's largest pro-

vider of pensions administration services after the acquisition of Hartshead Sol-

way for a total of £4.75 million

Hartshead's clients include

more than 100 private and

public sector clients. In the year to March 31, 1996, the

company earned pre-tax prof-

TOURIST

RATES

8m/s 549/s 5

(Martin Barrow writes).

#### West Ham plans £50m flotation in the summer

By JASON NISSE

WEST HAM United, the struggling Premiership club, is to float in the summer with a market value of at least £50 million after raising El.6 million in a private share placing

Terence Brown, chairman, said the money will be used to complete the payments on the £8.5 million purchase of strikers John Hartson and Paul Kitson. The club may raise tors before it floats. West Ham has appointed Nomura. the investment bank, to advise on the float.

The executors of the estate of the late Matthew Harding are preparing to place part of their 25 per cent stake in Chelsea Village, owners of Chelsea, it emerged yesterday. The holding, which cost just £15 million, is now worth more than £60 million.

Chelsea recorded a pre-tax loss of £404.000 in the six months to 31 December. Loss per share was 0.27p. Despite spending £12.5 million on players in the period and receiving only £6 million back, Chelsea's accounting allowed it to record a £31,000

profit on player trading.

The club said its fund raising to pay for the rede-velopment of its ground at Stamford Bridge was nearly

completed. Chelsea has raised £26.3 million from share placings and has placed another nine million shares, which were yesterday priced at 161 p, ար 6 եթ.՝

The consortium, led by Albert Scardino, husband of Pearson's chief executive, bidding for Nottingham Forest yesterday raised its offer to £19 million. This matches the bid by the group led by Nigel Wray, chairman of Burford. Forest shareholders will decide on the bids at an extraordinary meeting on Monday night.

Wimpey Homes is buying Roker Park, the home of Sunderland Football Club since 1898, for £1.3 million. Sunderland move to a new 42,000-seat stadium in the

per cent that it does not own of DriveSafe Services from JHP

Group for an initial £10 million and up to E5 million related to

profits. DriveSafe administers

theory tests for learner drivers.

Capita is raising £11.85 million

through a vendor placing of

new shares at 610p each.

#### GDP growth rate revised up to 2.7% UK ECONOMIC growth in the fourth quarter of last year was yesterday confirmed at 0.8 per cent although minor revisions to back data lifted the year-on-year growth rate of gross domestic product to 2.7 per cent from the 2.6 per cent reported

in provisional figures from the Office for National Statistics. Non-oil GDP figures were unrevised, with growth of 0.7 per cent in the quarter and 25 per cent year on year. The figures showed consumer spending remained the main engine for growth, rising 0.9 per cent in the quarter. Investment remained disappointing, with growth of only 0.2 per cent in the fourth quarter.

#### Hickson to reduce debt

HICKSON International, the speciality chemicals company that has spent a year in heavy restructuring, plans a major disposal aimed at reducing further its debt burden. Hickson reported a loss before tax of £9.2 million, which included a goodwill write-off following the sale of Hickson Manro. Pretax profit before exceptional items was £7.8 million (£5.9 million) and underlying operating profit improved by £8 million to £14 million. Borrowings fell to £56 million from £82 million. Tempus, page 30

#### On track for ScotRail

THE Government's rail privatisation programme remained on track when a potential delay was averted in Scotland. The Strathclyde Passenger Transport Authority voted unanimously to endorse the choice of National Express as preferred bidder for ScotRail. The authority, comprising 12 councils in western Scotland, is ScotRail's biggest single customer and stipulates timetables and services in its area. The endorsement follows three years of negotiations involving rail regulators.

#### **UBS** takes a loss

UBS, Switzerland's largest bank, had a loss of SFr348 million (£145 million) in 1996 after a SFr3 billion charge against bad debts and restructuring costs of SFr120 million. In the previous year profits were SFr1.67 billion. Personnel expenses last year rose by 17 per cent due "in large part to performance and profit-related bonuses," said the bank. The dividend is unchanged at SFr32 a share. Mathis Cabiallayetts, chief executive, said UBS honed for a net Cabiallavetta, chief executive, said UBS hoped for a net profit this year of more than SFr2 billion. Tempos, page 30

#### Aer Rianta diversifies

THE threatened closure of duty-free shops within the EU by mid-1999 has prompted Aer Rianta, the state-owned airport authority in the Irish Republic, to join NatWest Ventures in a 40 per cent stake in Birmingham International Airport for Ir£43 million. Aer Rianta is believed to have paid Ir£13 million for a 25 per cent stake. The restructuring deal paves the way for a IrE260 million investment programme at the airport. Last year half of Aer Rianta's profits, around Ir El8 million, was from duty-free shops.

#### Grafton profits build

STRONG growth in the Irish construction sector helped to lift pre-tax profits at Grafton, the building materials group based in Dublin, by 41 per cent to IrE15.5 million in 1996. l'Urnover rose 25 per cent to illily/ million. L'arnir per cent to 1r82.7p a share. All Grafton's operations in the Republic recorded double-digit growth in turnover. In the UK, a string of small acquisitions during the year in England helped to lift turnover 50 per cent to Ir E50 million. A final dividend of 11p a share lifts the total 40 per cent to 17.5p.

#### Shell joint venture slips

SHOWA SHELL SEKIYU, the Japanese oil refining company that is 50 per cent owned by Royal Dutch/Shell, suffered a 36.2 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to 12.18 billion yen in 1996. The company was adversely affected by poor retail prices for oil products and strong crude by poor retail prices for oil products and strong crude and the prices of Dishol grades. prices. In yen-based terms the price of Dubai crude, a Middle Eastern crude used as a benchmark in Asia, rose 41.4 per cent in 1996 because of strong crude prices and the yen's depreciation against the dollar.

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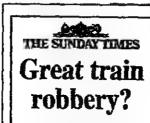
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> Henderson Hill Samuel HS8C invesco Johnson Fry *lupiter*

M&G Mercury Morgan Grenfell Newton

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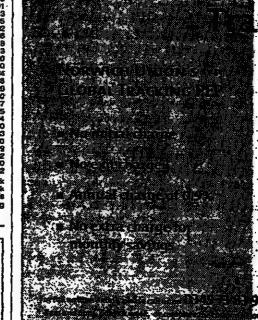
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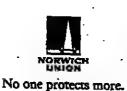
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**FUNDUP** 

# 'duce debt

### ScotRail

# diversifie

#### ofits built

Mark Property and Col.

Market State 

Park Cont

divulged on special request). The garden restoration, carried out by a team of specialists led by Karen Ellington and with advice from the Scottish Conservation Projects Trust, has also provided a fascinating picture of Scottish horticultural history.

Major Grant was a pioneering businessman, a renowned sportsman and an intrepid traveller who undertook every project on a grand site taking advantage of the Wilderness tamed: the restored garden of James Grant Hun.

#### A WORKING WEEK FOR: RICHARD GOODING

# Airport chief takes off in the land of dragons

Jon Ashworth finds out how a white elephant came to fly and how an underground link is expected to help it to soar

Tuesday er skies. New ownership has brought a touch of calm to this bleak outpost in Lon-Thursday don's Docklands. More

than a million passengers will pass through its gates this year, and the best is yet to come. The opening of the Jubilee Line extension will, it is claimed, place London City just 18 minutes' ride from Westminster.

All this provides the perfect cue for Richard Gooding, who joined as manag-ing director in August with a brief to steer London City through its new phase. He is set to embark on a programme of refurb-ishment that will transform the entire package. The terminal building and loun-ges will be spruced up and the car park resurfaced. There are plans to link the terminal with a 200-bed, four-star hotel, allow-

ing businessmen to check out and board their flights with a minimum of fuss.

The changes bear the mark of Dermot Desmond, a Dublin businessman who is fast building a diverse portfolio of investments. His interests include Celtic Ecostell, Club. Football Club, aircraft leasing, property and hotels. He purchased Sandy Lane in Barbados for £38 million last year. Desmond paid £23.5 million for London City in October 1995, ending a disastrous run for John Mowlem, the construction group that built the airport.

London City opened in 1987, just before the collapse in property values that was to push Canary Wharf over the brink. Mowlem could only watch in horror as

Mowlem could only watch in horror as millions of pounds seeped away into the Docklands marshes. The jinx extended to airlines such as City Link, which pulled out in 1991 after running up a reputed £10 million in costs. Another carrier, Brymon, withdrew in 1993, and Conti-Flug went one better - it went bust.

The turning point came in early 1992, when London City's runway was extended to accommodate aircraft such as the BAe 146 "whisper jet", which has a range of 1,000 miles, bringing most leading European destinations within reach. By the end of the year, passenger numbers had risen from a low of 150,000 to about 185,000. The opening of the Limehouse Link significantly improved access to the City and central London.

Desmond, who passes through London City at least once a week, has brought the financial stability that the airport needs. Gooding says: "He's not an asset stripper. He's not that sort of investor at all, He is interested in businesses where he can come in at a good value-for-money price, and grow and enhance those businesses. so that they become more valuable.".

Desmond has timed his entry well. The airport will soon have a raft of new neighbours; among them Norton Healthcare, a regional headquarters on the far side of the runway. A new business park is being launched, and there are plans - as yet unfinalised - to open London's biggest exhibition and conference centre. Wimpey Homes is building 777 homes around the Royal Docks. Deloitte & Touche is assessing the feasibility of building a £90 million national aquarium.

Such developments can only spur pass-

Beside the clear waters of the Back Burn, and carefully hidden in a

leafy corner, is a turf-roofed

Dram Hut and whisky safe. The Victorian garden at-tached to the Glen Grant

distillery at Rothes on Spey,

Aberlour, has just been re-

stored from bedraggled wil-

derness to idealised Scottish

Highland landscape by its owners, the Chivas and

Glenlivet Group.

The garden was designed by Major James Grant when he inherited the Glen Grant

Pure Mah Scotch Whisky

business in 1872. Its restora-

tion has been shortlisted for

this year's Civic Trust Land-

And whisky lovers will be tantalised by the reports of a

rediscovery of the Dram

Hut, Major Grant's private

whisky safe that held stocks

of the best pure malt. This

has been re-equipped and

made ready, one imagines,

for directors of the group to

indulge in a liquid equiva-

lent of the Easter egg hunt.

(Hints on its location may be

this year. Problems of access have been the main obstacle in the past - highlighted by controversial claims that the airport was only 20 minutes by car from the West End. After complaints the boast was amended to "less than 30 minutes". Many continue to view Docklands as

an impenetrable wasteland. As Gooding says: "A lot of people in London think that east of Tower Bridge it says There Be Dragons' on the map. It's seen as a lot of derelict warehouses, lots of narrow cobbled streets, and the legacy of some of the more famous criminals that operated in

The opening of the Jubilee Line extension, scheduled for March 1998, is expected to make all the difference. Gooding says: "Westminster will be 18 minutes away. You'll be able to travel door-to-door between here and the Ritz in under 30 minutes. Suddenly, we're going to be nearer than any other airport." Shuttle buses will cover the half mile between the

buses will cover the half mile between the airport and Canning Town station.

Gooding la well suited to this type of project, He joined from London Luton airport, which was turned round under his stewardship. In his five years there, Luton branched out from cheap holiday charter flights to include budget European services, using airlines such as Debonair. The airport grew into a

#### 6 In some ways, that congestion factor at Heathrow is our biggest strength 9

popular port of call for executive jets, attracted by the ability to fly in at any time

of day or night. Gooding is now training his sights on a more elusive quarry - the upmarket, time-conscious, business traveller. The intention is to increase the number of destinations — currently 20, served by 13 airlines — to take in all the leading business centres in Europe, Places such as Amsterdam, Berne, Frankfurt, Dublin, Amsterdam, Berne, Frankfurt, Dubun, Stockholm and Milan currently fall within the net, served by carriers such as Air UK and Citylet. Those still to be snared include Copenhagen, Hamburg, Madrid and Barcelona. UK destinations yet to be served include Glasgow, anchester and Belfust.

London City is becoming a viable alternative to Heathrow for executives within the appropriate catchment area. Those who live in central London, and around the eastern side of the M25, will certainly has the edge on Heathrow in swiftness of service. Passengers can turn up ten minutes before departure, and speed on their way, fog and other natural hazards permitting. As Gooding says: "At Heathrow, you can walk for 20 minutes before you've even got into the main terminal, never mind the traumas of

"Heathrow is a super airport, because it

A dram of comfort in

an exotic environment

garden at the Glen Grant distillery

Grant from the safe with

cold water from the burn.

landscape's natural features

and dramatic setting and

created rustic bridges across

the burn and waterside paths to meander through

the orchards and wooded

cleared the lower reaches of

the gien and laid stone and

pottery drains. Conserva-

tories were built to house his

collection of orchids and

hothouse fruits. Special visi-

tors were treated to melons.

peaches and grapes before enjoying a glass of Glen

Monday

LONDON City airport enger numbers, which hit 727,601 in 1996 has such a choice of flights and such high is heading for smooth and should comfortably exceed a million frequencies. All the airlines in the world want to be there, and it's natural that passengers will want to be where most of the well-known airlines are. But I think it is getting 200-like. In some ways, that congestion factor at Heathrow is our biggest strength."

In many ways, Gooding's goals are not particularly ambitious. London City deals with 20.000 passengers a week; doubling the numbers would threaten congestion and delays — all the things it is seeking to avoid. Only about 15 per cent of air travelers in London and the South East fall into the premium traveller bracket. Gooding will be happy to capture about 1<sup>1</sup>2 per cent of that. As he says: "The aviation business isn't just about volume of passengers. It's about yield: how much can you earn from

each of these passengers?"

The refurbishment is an important part The refurbishment is an important part of the equation, "Much of people's perceptions of the business are of what it looks like. Is it clean and tidy? Does it look bright and polished? Or is it starting to look slightly tarnished? These make a real impression on people." The terminal and lounges are a prime focus. "The airport building is now ten years old. You're starting to see the cracks."

Gooding is keen to smarten up the airport car park, putting in a covered walkway and improving security. Most of the interest is likely to centre on the hotel scheme — a rare enough speciacle in

scheme — a rare enough speciacle in amenity-starved Docklands. He foresees a complex that will blend in with the terminal and straddle the airport drop-off sone. "A lot of people like to use the facilities of a hotel, if even for a few hours. You could check out of the hotel and check in for your flight all in the same transaction. You just walk through and

get on to the aeroplane."

Having Desmond on the scene has helped to make such initiatives possible. "While we're not hugely profitable, we're no longer losing the disgusting sums of money that were being lost in earlier years. We can start to turn our eyes to the sort of issues which would have been seen as bit more frivolous in years before."

as bit more frivolous in years before."

The promise of increased jobs can only go down well in a borough with higher than average unemployment. London City provides work for 600 people, subcontractors and other staff included. "Ten years ago, here in the Royal Docks, not one of those jobs existed. There's never been a penny of public money in the airport, yet from nothing, 600 well-paid permanent jobs have been created. In terms of economic reseneration. It's terms of economic regeneration, it's something we have to be proud of.

While we need highly skilled jobs at one end of the spectrum, we also want cooks, and gardeners, and waiters, and waitresses, and retail people, and baggage handlers and firemen. The whole panoply of what used to be called

are good at providing."

It all bodes well. "Having gone from a small, quiet, backwater airport which was seen by many as a white elephant, the original rationale behind developing an inner-city airport in London's Docklands has come to fruition. We're now being seen by the experienced business traveller as a genuine alternative to Heathrow for short-haul flights to and from Europe."



Richard Gooding says London City airport is not yet hugely profitable, but it is no longer losing "disgusting sums"

# A red rag to a bull market?

#### Joanna Pitman discovers the Victorian and pathways. And as they cleared the encroaching undergrowth, beautiful mature orchards were discovered in which most of the cherry and apple trees had survived. Banks of rhododendrons

In its heyday the garden fully employed II gardeners, and native ferns had also but after Major Grant's death, it fell into decline. mens of early hybrids. The ornamental areas have been Harsh winters and the storm of 1953 took their toli. replanted with species from The restorers spent three America. China and the Hifull seasons bringing the garden back to life with the help of a few photographs from the turn of the century. malayas according to period garden catalogues. And the water features, a passion of Victorian gardeners, have been revived, the lily pond They traced the original being relined using the tradiwinding pathways, removed tional method of clay pudfallen timber, seeded trees, dling and the bog garden. rebuilt walls, restored replanted with iris and lilac

> Exotic plants from distant parts were highly fashionable in the late 19th century and determined specimen collectors developed special cases to carry back samples. Major Grant created

garden environments to accommodate a wide variety of exotica, including a large rhubarb-like marshland plant from Brazil, samples of Himalayan birch and the Chinese primula.

The restoration of the Glen Grant garden to its idealised Highland landscape has provided an extraordinary living museum of Scotland's late 19th-century gardening heritage. And visitors will no doubt appreciate its yearround glories all the more if they are fortunate enough to discover the hidden Dram

The Chinese flag will soon replace the Union Jack in Hong Kong. But what will happen to the economic complexion of the colony? How will companies fare after the change-over? Will investors be seeing red? Martin Currie think not.

After all, Hong Kong companies have been investing in China for many years. And Chinese companies - the 'red chips' - are already listed on the Hong Kong stock exchange.

But whatever happens - in South East Asia or elsewhere in the world - you can be sure that Martin Currie will be applying their long-established international investment skills to full advantage. (So no change there.)



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#### INSIGHT ON INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT

Martin Currie Investment Management Ltd. Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. Regulated by IMRO.

# Glaxo and Zeneca move in opposite directions

THE sight of shares in Glaxo Wellcome and Zeneca, two of Britain's biggest drug manu-facturers, travelling in opposite directions set tongues

wagging in the Square Mile. Glaxo Wellcome ended the day Zip lower at £10.1812, after briefly touching El0.1212, on turnover of more than six million shares. At the same time, shares of Zeneca were heading north with a leap of 78p to a new all-time high of £18.9512

At this level Zeneca carries a price tag of £17.2 billion, but remains more than half the size of Glaxo Wellcome. capitalised at almost £37

Zeneca has been the subject of intense takeover talk ever since it was demerged from ICI in 1993. Roche, the Swiss pharmaceutical group, was the name on everyone's lips a few weeks ago and in the past it has also been linked with Pfizer in the US.

A bid by Glaxo Wellcome is usually dismissed by brokers on regulatory grounds. Most of them say such a move would be immediately referred, but they also said that when Glaxo bid £10 billion for Wellcome in 1994.

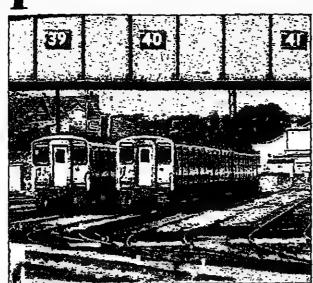
Last night there were whispers about a possible link-up between the two sides. But as one market-maker commented: "These sort of price movements usually attract the attention of the Takeover

The rest of the equity market had the look of the day after the night before about it. Indeed, a lot of analysts failed to make it to their desks after the annual Society of Investment Analysts' dinner at the

Grosvenor Hotel. Nevertheless, the FT-SE 100 index was able to halve an earlier fall of almost 44 points prompted by the sharp fall in the Dow Jones average the previous evening. The expiry of the March options passed off without event.

at 4,336.8, a rise of 5.1 on the week. Turnover reflected the reduced attendance levels. with just 780 million shares traded Rediand was a late casual-

ty, falling 812p to 33812p after losing its place as a constituent of the top 100 companies to Energy Group, which demerges from Hanson on Monday. Trading on the grey market, ahead of the start of



Shares in Railtrack rose 2312p on institutional buying

Energy slipped l'ap to 525p. Hanson was 1 4p down at 872p, while the rump of the business, made up of building products, was op down at

BOC Group sported a rise of 3412p at 994p cheered by positive comments from several brokers. NatWest Securities has raised its forecast after

Standard Chartered, lop off at 793p, National Westminster, 112p lower at 812p, and Abbey National, 612p cheaper

Shield Diagnostics rounded off a profitable week for shareholders with another leap of 113p to close at a new peak of 52912p. It stretches the gain during the past five days further consideration of the

Orange slipped 4p to 2094p. There is talk that British Aerospace may be close to selling part of its holding. But NatWest Securities. the broker, is quick to dismiss claims that the sale would create a stock overbang and depress the price. It says any share weakness should be seen as an opportunity to buy.

figures. The group is now looking for pre-tax profits of £445 million for the current year against £444.9 million and is urging clients to add to their holdings.

GKN enjoyed a much needed rally with the price firming 12p to 9471 ap. There are indications that the American judge in the Meineke franchisees trial may cut the damages award by around one third. The banks were mixed ahead of next week's clutch of

to 15712p. This time it has been boosted by a positive report about its AFT system for detecting heart disease in the early stages. The Medical Research Council said the presence of AFT in the bloodstream provided a reliable indicator of cardiovascular risk. Earlier this week Shield signed up a research agreement with Abbot Laboratories, providing it with facilities

Proteus International also

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#### MOVERS OF THE WEEK Agreed bid from Wellington London Clube bids Bumper profits new

finished the week on a high note with a rise of 17p at a new high of 74<sup>1</sup>2p as investors continued to reflect on prospects for its process for diagnosing BSE in cattle. Some estimate the European market, alone, could be worth £10 million a year. Institutional investors continued to chase Railtrack to

new heights with a rise of 2312p to 446p. Earlier this week the group committed itself to spending £4 billion a year on the rail network and promised to reduce the delay in its current £750 million capital expenditure

Chelsea Village, owner of the west London Premiership side, rose 612p to 16112p in spite of plunging into the red during the first six months. The final result exceeded expectations and was achieved despite crowd capacity being sharply reduced due to construction of a new stand.

Ashurst Technology was 20p better at 80p with the market continuing to assess prospects after its link-up with Easton Sports in the US to make baseball and softball

Hopes that Granada will use the proceeds from the sale of its Welcome Break chain of service stations to bid for the remainder of Yorkshire Tyne Tees Television lifted the latter 4212p to £12.15. Granada aiready owns 25 per cent of

First Call rose 21 sp to lip on news it was in talks which could lead to it making a significant acquisition. The announcement was prompted by the rise in the share price. 
GILT-EDGED: Unimpressed with the revised fourth-quarter gross domestic product, bond prices were dragged lower along with US Treasury bonds.

Investors seemed unwilling to test the market by opening fresh positions ahead of next week's auction. gilt finished £516 lower at

£113516, as almost 50,000 contracts were completed. Treasury 8 per cent 2015 lost £516 at £107, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was unchanged

NEW YORK: Share trading was volatile in morning trade as "double-witching" expirations took their toll on the Dow Jones industrial average. By midday it was 16.62 points lower at 6,912.76.

MAJOR INDICES New York (midday): 801.67 (-1.13)

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482p (-10p) 793p (-18p) **AEA Tech** Stand Chart ...., 618'ap (-11p) Royal Bk Scot Closing Prices Page 45

# Mountainous costs

THERE was a time when shy foreign depositors would meekly accept nil or even negative interest on their money just for the privilege of a Swiss franc account. Today. flight capital has a choice of homes, asset management is a competitive business and Swiss bankers have to work for a living.

UBS is learning, but very slowly. Six years of Swiss recession finally forced the bank to close branches, sack staff and erect huge bad debt provisions. Taking the pain in advance will shrink the balance sheet and improve next year's income account, thus providing a useful boost to UBS's slim return on capital of

But this is mere tinkering — a target return of 12 per cent compares badly with British or US competitors that earn returns double that rate. Such big money earning meagre returns

suggests UBS might take a leaf from Anglo-American banks and buy back its shares, but the Swiss have a problem.

UBS has set its heart on securities and corporate finance, spending heavily to buy in expensive bodies in New York and London. Growth in overseas staff numbers outweighed the headcount attrition in Switzerland last year, but capital markets and corporate finance provided the bulk of the

profits growth. Building up overhead in a volatile industry is a high-risk strategy and UBS needs a shield to protect it from a market downturn. Hence its reluctance to part with its capital cushion. With the Swiss economy still lame and its remaining fortunes riding on a frothy world market. UBS investors are on a hiding to

play the role of industry

consolidator. Meanwhile

Hays is waiting in the wings,

doubtless hoping that a

demerged and depressed

Salvesen logistics division

logistics. But a sum of the

parts valuation suggests

there is little in the argument

and the incumbents have no

strategy to grow logistics,

#### Salvesen

INVESTORS in Christian Salvesen, the company that once made a living from whaling, must feel that they are caught between the devil and the deep blue sea. They face a choice between

the existing management promise of a fashionable demerger and special dividend payout, or rebel shareholders, led by a former chairman and a new wouldbe chief executive. Both teams promise enhanced value but neither sounds

Last year, the incumbent management spurned a takeover approach from Hays without consulting shareholders. Their demerger proposal assumes that the value of the profitable Aggreko plant hire business is being depressed by boring old transport and

hence the plan to return capital to shareholders. would make a more manageable and cheaper morsel. In The rebels are more bullthe circumstances, investors ish, proposing to raise the would be better off selling performance of logistics with Salvesen in one piece to acquisitions. But Salvesen is hardly in a strong position to

Hays at a better price. BEACHED WHALE Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb

#### Hickson

AFTER a year of restructuring, Hickson shareholders are not much closer to a proper dividend. Savage cost cutting - halving the staff and reducing the number of operating sites from 38 to 18 has been acomplished and the operating result has im-proved by £8 million. The current challenge is to build up its growth businesses such as PharmaChem, which makes intermediate chemicals for pharmaceutical man-. ufacturers. That means ploughing more resources ent and Hickson has a big disposal planned.

the proceeds of which will repay £25 million of debt. That sort of price suggests one of Hickson's more profitable businesses in areas such as wood protection or coatings could be on the block but replacing the lost earnings will not be easy. Hickson is spending £20 million per year in its bush. In the meantime, current

to generate 15 per cent plus

returns but the full payback

could take more than a year.

year profits are a bit of a lottery, dependent on the profits forgone from the disposal. Even if Hickson earns £10 million this year, any dividend will be a token gesture, given the need to build up the core businesses. Capita Group

ISSUING shares rated at 40 times earnings to buy businesses valued at 9-10 times earnings is an easy way to boost performance. However. Capita group is no mere acquisition junkie. It is the champion of outsourcing providing clerical staff to public sector bodies and utilities. The company processes forms, collects council tax.

runs the finance department, all for a fee cheaper than the cost of running it yourself. Capita can do it and earn a more efficiently. That suggests fewer staff and it is no secret that public sector unions are deeply opposed to outsourcing. Capita is targeting local authorities and NHS where it can run the front of house as well as the huge back offices that have built up to deal with the NHS Internal market. The question is whether

10 business centres around

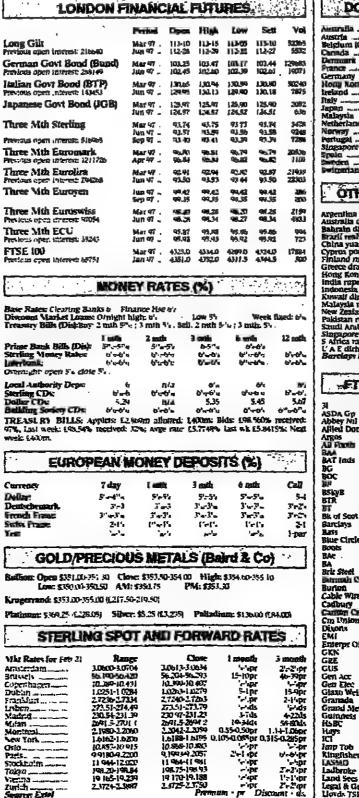
the country and running it

Labour will put a damper on this business, treating it as the ugly sister of privatisation. That seems unlikely, not just because New Labour is stealing every item of Tory clothing it can lay it hands on. The opposition has embraced the private finance initiative but more imporsources to pay for a revitalised local government. Pennies saved in admin mean more for housing and nurseries. Capita should continue to thrive.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

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#### **IN CONTROL 36**

Turning up the heat on British Gas

# WEEKEND MONEY

#### **ETHICAL STANCE 38**

Increase your wealth with a clear conscience



THE TIMES: PERSONAL FINANCE NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR



# strong sterling Caroline Merrell looks at the rising pound's profound effect

Shock waves of

or the person in the street, the only obvirise in the strength of sterling against other curren-cies is that holidays suddenly become much cheaper.

However, the pound's rise wer the last few months will have a profound effect on all aspects of the economy, from the price of mortgages to the cost of sugar. It will also have a big impact on investments, savings, fixed-interest securities such as gilts, and company

As the company reporting season begins, some, such as Reuters, the communications group, are already blaming disappointing figures on ster-ling's strength. Volkswagen, the German cannaker, gave warning last week that it would cease to buy British car components if they continued to get more expensive because of sterling's inexorable rise. Here The Times explains what the long-term impact of the strong pound will be.

Interest rates. The base rate in the UK is one of the nighest among the developed nations. Foreign investors, such as the Americans, Japanese and continental Europeans, have rushed to invest in sterling. The situation is unlikely to change because these countries do not appear likely to increase rates enough to

attract back investors. Despite pressure from the Bank of England, Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, is refusing to raise the UK base rate. However, many economists, including Chris Turner at BZW. believe that interest rates will have to go up to try

on all aspects of the economy

to ease inflationary pressures. Mr Turner said: "We are still looking for three increases in base rates, bringing the total rise before the end of the year to 0.75 or 1 per cent."

Rises in the base rate will be matched by rises in mortgage rates and savings rates. A rise in interest rates means that foreigners will be more likely to continue to invest in sterling, thus keeping the pound

Inflation. At the moment, the Government is trying to hit its inflationary target of 2.5 per cent, without increasing interest rates. A strong pound is deemed to be a dellationary factor. Last year an estimated £178 billion was spent on imports. This same sum of money could buy many more imports this year, which means that the price of goods may not rise.

are almost certainly going to be hit by the rise in the pound. Nearly half of the profits earned by the biggest 100 companies in the UK are earned from abroad. These stated profits will be damaged by a strong pound.

M&G head of research, said: "The problems caused by the translation of overseas profits into sterling may be matched by companies borrowing overseas and paying off the interest in pounds."

**W**UK manufacturers. The biggest victims of the rising pound will be UK manufacturing companies, many of which rely on export sales for a large part of their profits. Their goods will now be more expensive than many of their competitors' goods.

The damage will be slightly mitigated by the fact that UK companies will have to pay less for their raw materials. However, Mr Hatherly said: "Manufacturing companies in Germany did well despite the rise of the mark against the other currencies ... German companies managed to become very much more efficient, in the UK, manufacturers will have to go through a period of painful adjust-

 Unit and investment trusts. At the end of last year many of the returns made on rising world markets by those with y a strong pound. internationally invested unit However, John Hatherly, trusts, personal equity plans

Mr Hatherly said: "Many fund managers have in the past relied on a devaluing pound to boost returns from overseas investments. They will now have to pay much more attention to the underlying stock." Mr Hatherly said he advised investors who were concerned about currency risk to keep their investments restricted to the UK.

Gilt-edged stocks. Some investment managers believe that gilts are a particularly good buy at the moment. Tenyear gilts currently yield around 7.1 per cent, more than i per cent higher than the German equivalent. Foreign investors may be attracted by the yield and the fact that any income earned will be in sterling, which is appreciating in value.

More buyers will push up the price and the overall returns. Investments that rely on gilts include National Savings products and some fixedinterest unit trusts.

Holidays. One of the most appealing factors about the pound's rise is that holidays will be cheaper. According to American Express, £1 bought 7.53 francs a year ago. Now El buys 9.06 francs — a difference of nearly 20 per cent. Holiday-makers to Spain were given 187 pesetas for each pound exchanged, today they will receive 229 pesetas — 22 per cent more. However, those holidaying in the US now get \$1.57 to the pound, compared with \$1.49 a year ago - a 5 per

# Halifax unmoved by campaign

The Hallfax Building So-ciety is refusing to bow to pressure from MPs and consumer bodies to compensate elderly, widowed and disabled members who have been excluded from the share distribution because their accounts are run by trustees.

64. 海中山上1

As the society's 8.5 million members prepare to vote at Monday's special general meeting on the plans to become a bank, pressure is growing for the society to use the occasion to commit itself to paying free shares directly to disabled members and others

whose savings are handled by trustees. The Times has been campaigning against societies that refuse to give free shares to such members in their own right. Societies argue that only the first named on the account is a member and that members can receive only one

This excludes thousands of. disabled and elderly people who are unable to handle their financial affairs and whose accounts are held in the name of relatives, friends or professionals acting as trustees. Douglas French, MP,

sponsor of a Private Member's Bill which would force societto include such disenfranchised people in their payout schemes, this called on the Halifax to Monday's meeting to make a "significant gesture and promise to come forward with a formula to recognise the interests of people being

left out". Mr French's Bill received an unopposed first reading in the Lords last Monday and will receive its second reading next Friday, if the Bill goes through unopposed, it could receive

Royal Assent in early March. As it stands, the Bill is not retrospective. The Halifax and other societies, including the Woolwich and the Alliance & Leicester, would not be forced to include trustee-held ac-

counts in bonus payouts.

However, Mr French believes the societies have an "enormous moral obligation" to do so. He said: "The Halifar has an untenable position to say its scheme is fair. It is clear what the wishes of Parliament and public are."

SARA MCCONNELL

# MONEYBUILDER:

WEEKEND MONEY

is edited by Anne Ashworth

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Other than the effect of the bid-offer spread, which should not exceed 0.77%. [Souther Pidelty, running yield as at 10/2/97 Gross redemption yield 6 Fit. All other data from Micropat, offer to offer, are accounting to 17/97. Reference to make refers to the Refer MoneyBuilder products. Resources and meets are as at 31/12/96 and include resources of FMR Corp, a U.S. company and affilianc. Fust performance is an agustance of future returns. The value of investments and any income from them party fall as well as the and an operator may not get back the amount present. MoneyBuilder Plan denotes investment in Fidelity Investment agreement and any income from them party fall as well as the and an operator may not get back the amount present. MoneyBuilder Plan denotes investment in Fidelity Investment Services 12d, regulated by DRICO and the Personal Investment advants are granted to an are products and door not related to the amount of the product of the services and door not related to the amount of the product of the product of the product of the product and door not related to the product of the product of the Personal Investment Anthonity.

# Banks build the bottom line

Traditionally, a pound managed by a great British bank was reckaned to be worth a fair bit less than the pound in your pocket. The skills of your friendly local bank manager devalued the assets he ran. Whereas most inarket at more than their balance sheet worth, banks were priced at a discount. There was, it turned out, a sound reason. In the 1970s and 1980s, banks

showed an uncanny knack for losing

money in large quantities. The more dynamic they became, the more speciacular the disasters for shareholders. Few creatures are thore dynamic than a lemming in full cry. Almost as one, banks successively rushed to lend on property, which crashed, to developing countries, which defaulted, on American oil and property, which dived, for small business expansion, which shrank rap-

idly in the 1990 slump, and for big developments that ran into trouble. Profitable business was forever undermined by sometimes huge provisions against bad debts. Even some of their help dividends, the main solace for investors, were slashed. Midland, one of the worst hit, was finally taken over by Far East champion HSBC, to City relief.

Banks were a laughing stock. Not any more. For a while, banks have been disaster-free and underlying profits have grown apace. Bank shares have been the darlings of the market, leading and outpacing the market averages. Over the past five years, the FT-SE retail bank index has soured by rearly 300 per cent, against about 75 per cent for the all-share index. Powered

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more by profits than rerating, bank shares now typically trade at two to three times book value.

Can it last? It is hard to believe banks have given up old habits. But there are signs of fundamental change. Sir Brian Pitman, whose dedication to shareholder value paid big dividends at Lloyds, inspired a new generation of unsentimental bottom-line bank bosses. They drive to cut costs and cut again, to match low-cost building societies and Abbey National, which has made a successful transition to banking. Telephones, com-puters and cash machines enabled this cost revolution and bring new products.

If small customers quit in fury when they find their branch has closed, their bank manager has been fired along with the staff, or been replaced by a youthful salesman, and they can only communicate with a faulty computer with no memory, then too bad. New customers can be bought and the cust of servicing them cut in turn. It seems to work. Top

world's most profitable.

Clearing banks' cost ratios are still high, allowing for their broader mix of business; NatWest is now wielding the sabre on staff and branches. Expansion focuses on areas such as consumer credit, mortgages and fund manage-ment, historically safer than ambitious foreign ventures. Banks have infiltrated potential competition from telephone banking and credit cards and will partake in the supermarket challenge.

There is also a new caution. Bardays which used to have to run to shareholders for more gambling money, now passes surplus capital back to shareholders rather than feeling compelled to lend it on any plausible passing proposi-tion. Best of all, the UK economy that banks operate in has become quieter: steadier interest rates, steadier price levels and therefore less instability in the markets on which borrowers rely. If this continues, banks have a chance of staying on the straight and narrow.

Things can still go wrong. High profits invite competition, not least from converting building societies. Credit quality will deteriorate. Profit-taking on the Bardays results shows that a long bull market creates its own risks. The sector, though still not highly rated, is vulnerable to a market break, Soon, however, millions of people will become investors in new banks with new potential such as Halifax, Woolwich and Alliance & Leicester. They should not be in a hurry to sell. These now look the best way into the sector.

هكذا من رلامهل

# A little extra incentive for Halifax borrowers

Kingdom's biggest of the mortgage market, this week launched two schemes aimed at keeping its customers loyal.

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■ Offer closes 27th March 1997

charge to pay

on the 5th anniversary.

• There is no exit charge to pay

• Offer closes 4th April 1997

their investment

The first initiative cuts more than 1 per cent off its range of fixed-rate loans, while the second offers a cashback of up to £10,000 spread over three years. The Halifax is now offering a five-year fixed-rate loan, with an interest rate set at 7.65 per cent. Previously the rate was 8.45 per cent. Its three-year. fixed rates have a rate of 6.9 per cent, against 7.85 per cent previously, while its two-year fixed rate is 6.45 per cent,

against 7.25 per cent. The Christmas cashback scheme will pay borrowers a sum equal to I per cent of the outstanding loan, on December 1, for three years. Borrowers will also get a 1 per cent cashback when they take out the mortgage.

This aggressive move is seen by some as an attempt by the Halifax to maintain market share. Its 2.1 million borrowers have been effectively locked in since it an-nounced in 1994 that it planned to merge with the Leeds and float on the stock market. Borrowers have been unable to move their loans - doing so would jeopardise their allocation of shares, expected to be worth around £840.

Elsewhere, mortgage brokers are reporting an in-crease in business as three to four years of pent-up de-mand for property is released. Brokers are claiming an increase in demand for

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100 per cent mortgages despite the problems experienced by those buying houses without a deposit at the end of the Eighties. It was

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this category of borrowers that experienced the greatest difficulty during the

However, those in the mortgage market consider that lenders to these borrowers have learnt how to underwrite the loans with a little more care. Ian Darby, marketing director at John Charcol, the mortgage broker, said: "In reality, underwriting a 100 per cent loan is very similar to underwriting a 90 to 95 per cent loan."

He said it was easier for those with no deposit to try to borrow the entire value of their property, rather than using credit cards and personal loans to fund a deposit. He said: "Borrowing at 7.24

mortgage rate is much better than trying to take out a bank loan where the rates will be much higher."

Mr Darby said that he was also experiencing a rise in demand for fixed-rate loans. Of the Halifax move, he said: "I reckon the Halifax needed to cut their fixed rates because they were way out of line with the market."

Potential borrowers are being drawn to fixed-rate loans because of the security they provide. Many brokers believe that interest rates are almost sure to rise despite Kenneth Clarke's refusal to cave in to pressure from the Bank of England. Among the fixed rates recommended by John Charcol is a five-year 7.45 per cent rate from the Leeds & Holbeck, and a twoyear 5.29 per cent mortgage from the Skipton.

r Darby and other mortgage brokers gave warning that borrowers should make sure that they understand the redemption penalties that apply to fixed-rate loans.

David Duncan, director of residential mortgages at Chase de Vere, said: "I would ask anyone planning to take out a fixed rate to make sure that they understand the redemption penalties. Many lenders are now expressing redemption loan rather than as a few months' interest."

Expressing penalties as a percentage of the loan could lead some borrowers into believing that they face pay-ing less if they redeem their loan than they would in schemes where redemptions are expressed in terms of

monthly interest. Mr Darby also gave warning against some of the decay discounted mortgages which were in vogue a few months ago — mortgages as low as I per cent were being offered.

One of the conditions of many discounted loans is that the borrower must move to the variable rate as soon as the discount ends, which in some cases could double the mortgage payments overnight.

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BEECH HILL HOUSE, WALNUT CARDENS, EXETER DEVON EX

ainsbury's. Even its name sounds downbeat, as tired as its stores. In the dreary aisless and the populous queues of my local branch. I seidom feel more like singing the blues.

The supermarket is now hoping to regain its place in the nation's affections by diversifying into banking. The move suggests that Sainsbury's may, after all, be capable of copying the successful innovations

As Delia Smith could tell you, there is much to be gained by following a tried and tested recipe. The highly efficient First Direct, created by the Midland, has obviously served as one model for the Sainsbury's bank. Sainsbury's has begun well by offering a highly competitive 5.75 per cent rate on balances of as little as £1. Small savers could earn a better return only by taking a risk with their money. These customers have largely



See Letter 2 ANNE ASHWORTH Personal Finance Editor

been forgotten by the hullding societies who prefer investors with larger sums. Anyone now aspiring to open an account with £100 is seen only as a speculator, hoping to benefit from a

future conversion. The generous interest rate should also ensure that Sainsbury's wins a significant number of new savers when Halifax and the other societies becoming banks distribute their windfalls in the summer.

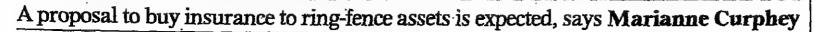
Savers who have been locked into low-paying accounts will be anxious to find a new home for their cash. The Abbey National has already declared its intention to win as much of this money as possible. Another rival should act in the most satisfactory

ray to increase rates all round. Customers, however, should not be overwhelmed by Sainsbury's generosity. Its savings account is a loss leader. If you sign up with the super-market, it may attempt to encourage you to fill your trolley with other financial products but you would be best advised to shop around.

#### Beyond belief

BOWING to demands for information from its L1 million policyholders, Scottish Amicable this week said it will name its chosen bidder in March. However, the situation remains far from satisfactory. The with-profit policyholders who own Scottish Amicable will have no chance to compare the eight rival offers from Abbey National, the Procential and others

The Sentish Amicable board will be goided in its decision by SBC War-burg and the other advisers who a few weeks ago recommended the company's flawed plan for its future. This was presented as "a real opportunity to maximise value for with profit policy-holders", although it richly rewarded directors and gave the policyholders a paltry sum. How will anyone have any faith in their opinion?



# A new look at long-term care

Tens of thousands of elderly people who need nursing home care in the final years will learn within weeks how the Government expects them

to pay for it.
Although the long-awaited draft Bill on long-term care is due to be published soon. there will be a consultation period for insurers and charities, and ministers admit it is unlikely to become law before

the general election. That leaves many about to enter private nursing homes confused and anxious. It also means that those who are ill and may need nursing beface a dilemma.

The draft Bill is expected to propose a partnership scheme whereby an individual may buy an insurance policy toring-fence their assets and prevent a proportion of them being used to pay for care.

The working details have not yet been released, but they are expected to suggest that for every Il worth of insurance taken out, the Government will "disregard" between £1.50 and £2 of assets.

In Britain, single pensioners with assets of between £10,000 and £16,000 now have to contribute towards a propor-

tween now and the summer tion of the cost of nursing care, while those with more than £16,000, including their homes, have to meet the full bill. These regulations have been criticised for penalising pensioners who save.

Under new proposals ex-pected, if a person bought insurance worth £40,000, then, together with the £16,000 "disregarded", for single pen-sions, the State would allow assets worth between £56,000 and £96,000 to be left free for inheritance, before it claimed any surplus to cover long-term CALL COSTS.

Age Concern England said that it was concerned that the

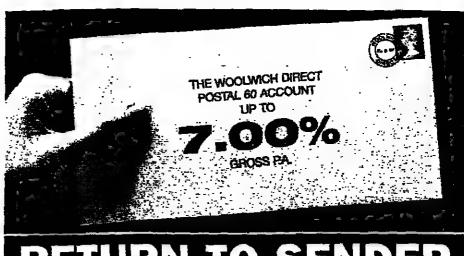
proposals would benefit a very small number of people who could afford to pay for such insurance. "We would like to see all political parties making a commitment to providing free nursing care to everyone.

The Continuing Care Conference, which represents charities, care providers, local authorities, financial product providers and consumer organisations, called on all the political parties to give the issue top priority during the election campaign.

It says it is concerned that none of the parties has presented comprehensive proposals that deal with the long-

term and the immediate prob lems facing large numbers of older people. About 160,000 older people go into nursing or residential homes each year and 40,000 people are forced to sell their homes to meet

long-term care costs. Frank Field, Labour MP and chairman of the Social Security Select Committee, proposes that people should buy insurance to cover the risk of needing professional care at the end of their lives. Everyone would pay 3 per cent of their income towards this, and payments would be triggered when the person qualified for help for medical reasons.



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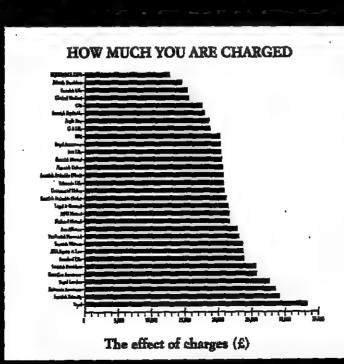
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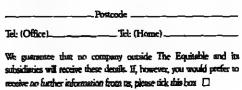
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THE VALUE OF YOUR INVESTMENT AND INCOME EARNED IS NOT GUARANTEED AND CAN GO DOWN AS WELL AS UP. PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY A GUIDE TO FUTURE PERFORMANCE. Homeowners caught by development plans

Property blight is affecting

more and more

people, reports

Sara McConnell

path of the proposed I second runway at Manchester airport this week vowed to fight on against the expansion, which they say has blighted their properties for the past six years and trapped them in homes which they cannot sell. In some cases, the value of homes has dropped by more than half, they claim Hundreds of thousands of homeowners across the country are similarly affected by road schemes, rail routes and other big public projects in-

volving environmental up-heaval for years or even decades. Even those who qualify for compensation face years of waiting with no prospect of claiming until a scheme has been up and running for a year.

The rules governing comp sation were last year attacked as inadequate by the Select Committee on the Channel Tunnel Rail Link A government working group is review-ing payments to homeowners and is expected to report "shortly". The Halifax Building Society confirmed that it was compiling a report on property prices in blighted areas.

Janet Armstrong-Fox, a solicitor and member of the planning and environmental law

purchased for demolition:



Doomed: Catherine Lane in the grounds of her home, Hill House, a Grade Il listed property that will be demolished to make way for the second runway at Manchester airport

group of Collyer-Bristow, a firm of solicitors, said: "This review is years overdue. For too long homeowners who find themselves in the locality of a popular scheme have had no alternative but to brace themselves for years of uncertainty with no guarantee of adequate compensation for either their financial loss or the misery they will invariably suffer."

second runway at Manchester airport this week started a legal challenge to the Government's decision last month to approve the plans after an eight-month

KNOWN HARGHS

IF YOUR home is in the path of a scheme and is compulsorily

The authority buying your home (for example, a government

You can also claim a "home loss" payment of 10 per cent of the

market value of your home to compensate for distress and

inconvenience. The minimum you can claim is £1,500 and the

🗷 You only qualify for these payments if you have been living in

The authority has up to three years after it has served a

compensation. If it fails to negotiate within three years, the notice

If part of your land is compulsorily purchased, you will be paid the market value for the land and possibly compensation

III You may be able to serve a blight notice, forcing the authority

to buy if you cannot sell because of a proposed scheme which may include the compulsory purchase of your property in future. IF YOUR home is near but not directly in the path of a project,

you are in many ways worse off than if your home was compulsorily purchased, according to Collyer-Bristow solicitors.

You can only claim compensation if you can prove the value of your home has reduced as a direct consequence of the scheme.

If you can prove a loss is directly as a result of such a scheme.

you can claim compensation for the depreciation in the value

your property would have had if the scheme had not existed. You

will get a percentage of this value, normally between 5 per cent and 7.5 per cent.

You cannot claim anything until the scheme has been up and

Further information is included in Land Compensation - Your Rights Explained, published by the Department of the Environment. Pree initial advice on blight problems can be obtained from The Environmental Law Foundation, an

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public inquiry. Barry Hep-burn, co-ordinator of the Manchester Airport Joint Action Group, is leading the challenge. He said the group was "buoyed up to fight on". Some homeowners had seen the value of their homes drop by more than £100,000. He said: "People close to the second runway are finding their homes virtually unsaleable."

However, a successful challenge would mean further uncertainty, particularly for the residents of the worst-affected areas, which include Mobberley and Knutsford. Rick Dallimore, a partner in Meller Braggins, a Knutsford estate agents, said: "The new runay will ead in the centre of Mobberley, which is causing problems. We have houses for sale which don't sell, or at least not at an acceptable price. The airport has bought a lot of properties off people, but we are left with the people whose

agency) must pay the price you would have got if there were no plans to build anything and you had sold it in the normal way. You can also claim moving and legal expenses, but you cannot buy a more expensive home and claim for the difference. homes adjoin the runway." One Mobberley resident, Martin Bridgiord, has been trying to sell his five-bedroom cottage for four-and-a-half ears. It went on the market for £335,000 in June 1992. Now

prospective buyers say they do not want to buy because of the airport. Last month one buyer's surveyor concluded: "It is difficult to see why anyone should want to buy this house because

of the airport situation." Other residents who spoke to The Times refused to be named in case they jeopardised any slim chance of a sale. One has been trying to sell his four-bedroom de-

tached house since 1991. He and his wife want to couple estimate the house is worth about £400,000, but one buyer offered £140,000. They said: "It's a basic right that people need to move. We're almost in despair. All our lives we've had reasonable control over what happens. Now we have none.

Mr Bridgford is angry that Manchester airport has so far refused to exercise its discretionary powers to buy blighted property. The airport said in a statement: "The second runway development will be managed to keep disturbance in the locality to a minimum. After the second runway is it is worth an estimated operational, the airport com-£100,000 less because of the pany will honour its legal runway plans, according to obligations in respect of prop-his estate agent. Almost all a creature for compensation."



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Martin Waller concludes his five-part series on investing

# Bid battles explained

**BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO** THE STOCK **MARKET** 



ou are nearly there. There are just a few odd points you need to know, starting with what happens when one company bids for

#### Takeover bids

Our lives are crammed with decisions. Some we take immediztely, others we have a few days to mull over. Few of us have two whole months to decide even the most serious.

Peculiarly, this is how long you get to decide whether or not to sell your shares to a company that may want to buy them. The mechanics of the bid are thus... Company A says it wants to buy company B. It names a price it is prepared to pay for each share — generally well above that share's previous price, un-

less the bid is widely expected. The offer may be straight cash, a mixture of cash and new shares or loans to be issued by company A. Another type of offer, although rare, is one entirely of new shares. If the offer includes shares, there will generally be a full cash alternative pitched slightly below the value

If you have shares in company B, you must decide if the of-

GREATIVALUE PENSIONS

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fer fully values them. Consult a financial adviser or the press. and remember the first rule: never hurry. If the offer is agreed by company A immediately. a joint announcement is made that a deal has been done.

If it is contested, the board of company B will generally advise its shareholders to take no action. Follow this advice: most contested bids have to be raised to be successful, and first offers But if you accept the first offer and it is later raised, you get the higher amount anyway.

Once a formal document is issued, the takeover has 60 days to be resolved. Athough most companies' shares are owned by big City institutions, small shareholders are of some imp-ortance. The bidder must gain the assent of more than 50 per cent of the shares issued. Bids have been won or lost by just a lew thousand shares. The offer document will tell you how to accept. You will then receive circulars from both sides. Company B's record is "seriously flawed", company A could run

company B better, and so on -a quick read and bin most of it. If you fall to accept and the bid succeeds, obviously you get the price on offer. If a majority accept, it is always best to go. along with them. Conversely, you do not get the money if the bid fails, even if you have accepted it. If it fails, expect the share price, which will have risen to approach the terms on offer, to crash back again.

#### The players

City operators today may be conglomerates, huge financial institutions that might house merchant banks advising companies on finance and City business, such as takeovers and broking businesses that buy



Beware: the City is not without its Arthur Daley characters

and sell shares. They may also own fund managers that hold them long-term, although most are independent and skilled at playing off banks and brokers against each other.

Whatever the structure, they are supposed to operate separately. If a merchant bank learns that its client, company A, is to bid for company B tom-orrow and the shares can be expected to rise, it is clearly unacceptable for a banker to tell the brokers to buy the shares now. The two businesses are under one roof, but are said to be separated by a Chinese Wall.

I said "supposed". Actions such as the purchase I just described are not unknown, and are an example of insider trading and illegal, as would be the purchase of shares in company B by a company A employee who knew about the bid beforehand. But all this does happen — it is not unusual for shares in a company to rocket before a bid is announced. Clearly, somebody knew and dealt in the shares. But there are few successful prosecutions.

#### AIM

The Alternative Investment Market (AIM) is a kindergarten for companies that lack the mature trading record that the Stock Exchange requires for admission to the Official List.

and the second s

the main body of traded shares. Created in June 1995, it is relatively new, as are most of the companies quoted on it. They are, by definition, risky invest-ments. Any money invested in AIM stock should be regarded similarly to visiting a racetrack.

You could lose the lot.

Dividends are paid net of tax. which is paid in advance by the investors from having to pay tax up to the standard rate. If you pay higher-rate tax you must make up the difference, if you pay no tax, you can reclaim

So there you are. I have cantered through the basics of what every shareholder should know. The most important quality for any investor is caution. Not everyone in the City is a crook, an Arthur Daley or a con-man. But some are.

Regard anyone approaching you with an investment opportunity as you would a second-hand car dealer. Plenty of those are honest, too, and there are perfectly good cars on their forecourts. But there are two sides to every share purchase. If the shares you are being urged to buy are such a good deal. why is the other side so keen to

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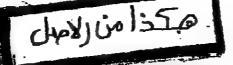
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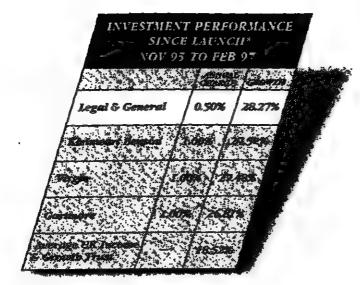


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# Clare Stewart examines the public's reaction to gas competition

#### D emember that catchy slogan "don't you just love being in control". as offered by finger-snapping celebrities to induce a nice warm feeling about British Gas? As with many slogans, it probably scored more on catchmess than accuracy. True, the average gas user

was able to choose different ways of paying bills and to use more or less gas depending on their needs. But when it came to choosing a gas supplier, the element of choice disappeared. British Gas was the only

This is no longer the case. Deregulation means that by the first week of March nearly two million households will have been offered a chance to change to a different and cheaper gas supplier. Opening up the remainder of the market to competition will follow, but precise timing is a matter of debate between British Gas and Clare Spottiswoode, the regulator, who is keen to speed up the process.

Ironically, in the areas where the market has been opened up, the fact that consumers really are in control has been far from obvious, prompting criticism that not enough was done to inform and educate customers in advance. The change to being able to select from at most IS licensed suppliers seems to have left consumers rather bemused.

The first phase of deregulation began last April and covered people living in Devon, Cornwall and Somerset. While the message that switching supplier would lead to savings was not difficult to get across, consumer response was affected by worries that a switch would need a new meter or the installation of new pipes.

In fact, it should simply involve informing British Gas, settling the final bill and then paying the new supplier when necessary. Same gas, same pipes is the message suppliers are keen to communicate.

But householders were taken by surprise by the arrival of door-to-door salesmen. The high-pressure sales tactics of

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So do we just love being in control?



Bygone era: lack of choice in gas supply is a thing of the past

some suppliers led to complaints from people who felt that they had been pushed into the gas, signing up without fully under standing their options. There were also instances of customers being switched to a new supplier without their knowdge. Tighter controls have

now been introduced and all suppliers have signed a code of practice which can be enforced. To add to the confusion in the market British Gas has just demerged. The retail arm. which includes British Gas Home Energy, the supplier to Centrica. BG pic is the exploration and distribution business

which includes TransCo. the

you think there is a gas leak regardless of who is supplying

Overall prices in both the first and second phase amount to an average saving of 20 per cent. But the actual saving that each household can achieve will be calculated according to the amount of gas used -- the higher the usage, the lower the unit price - and now you choose to pay.

Caloriez, the partnership be-

tween Calor Gas and Texaco. claims to have secured the 44,000 customers. Households paying an annual bill of £300 can save between £49 to £59 at. Caloriex's current tariffs, depending on whether they pay by cheque or cash quarterly or

by cheque or cash quarterly or by monthly direct debit. SWEBGas, part of South Western Electricity, offers a minimum saving of at least 17 per cent. On a current £300 gas bill this translates into savings of between £51 and £63. But these savings are not shared across the board. Ac-

cording to research by the Gas Consumers Council and the National Right to Fuel Campaign, customers using prepayment meters are losing out. Because of the expense in-volved administering such meters, pre-payment customers will pay on average 26 per cent more than those paying by direct debit.

Excluding the cost of prepayment meters, prices for other customers do show a range of discounts and in general have been fixed for around a year, if not longer, from the time of signing.

What is still unknown is how prices will compare further down the line once the whole market has been opened up to

At present British Gas carrnot join the fray and cut its cost to match those of the new competitors. It can only do that once it has satisfied Ofgas that a genuine competitive market has been established.

Tempting as the cut-price offers appear, customers able to shop around need to look closely at the small print. Many of the customer complaints investigated by the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) during the first phase involved examples of potentially unlair clauses in customer contracts. such as the way gas usage estimates were made.

The full implications of deregulation have yet to be seen. and future price trends will be driven not just by the market price for gas but also by the outcome of a number of events. For example, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission is investigating the price British Gas charges for carrying gas in its pipeline. If the MMC requires prices to be reduced. suppliers will be able to pass on some of that to customers.

With a number of issues to be resolved between BG and Ofgas, it looks as if customers not included in the first phase of deregulation will have to wait until 1998 for cheaper gas to come their way. However one advantage may be that some of the teething problems will have been sorted out.

Choice: The Ofgas Guide to Gas Consumers Council also offers advice on 0645 060708.

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# Gas is no laughing matter

company geologist from Sussex, failed to see the funny side of British Gas's service contract. fixed-price "take-or-pay" con-tracts fiasco for which it

expected its customers to pay. So he was delighted when Kent and Sussex were chosen as early areas for competitive gas supply distributors under the deregulation of the industry. But then his problems

"I wanted to do an analysis of the different packages offered by the competing companies, but some of them were coy to the point of secrecy about what they were offering and it was almost impossible to get information from some companies.

"I originally contacted Ofgas, the regulator, to get the names of the companies and then began telephoning them. Some of them took three or four calls to get a response and some still had not sent their information and contracts a month after I originally contacted them. It seemed a strange way to win customers.

Having had considerable experience of constructing and using databases in the oil industry, when he had most of the information from the competing companies to hand, he set up a database on his home computer.

His intention was to make an analysis to find the best supplier on the basis of tariff price, standing charge and method of payment.

He decided to exclude ap-

ohn Freake, a retired oil he feels it is cheaper to use an independent engineer than to have a British Gas or similar

> Likewise he dismissed store voucher offers and other tiny inducements as "an irrelevance". But again he hit problems trying to compare like-with-like for each company against his present British Gas contract.

"One company did not give details of its discounts at all. It simply had a box to tick on the contract if you were interested in a discount. I rang up to find out about the further discount and no one could tell me anything about it."

Eventually, of the 11 companies on whose figures he could do a reasonable analysis, Mr Freake found that Scottish Power and SWEBGas gave the greatest savings over British Gas at 27 per cent and 23.74 per cent respectively.

This was calculated using the cheapest option available - a monthly direct debit secured a 4 per cent discount, or a lower tariff rate. Most contracts are rolling ones and companies offer fixed terms.

He concluded: "Some of these offers are not as transparent as they could be, I think Ofgas could have insisted that contracts were offered on a standardised basis so that consumers could make easy direct comparisons between companies.
Whichever company you choose, do read the supply



John Freake set up his own database to try to make sense of competing gas contracts

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#### British Gas Trading \_\_ 0 \_\_\_ contract carefully." Centrica moves dynamically — down

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bout £250,000 was spent by Brit-A ish Gas last year on a rebrand-ing exercise for the two companies that were to emerge from its planned demerger. The sum bought two logos and two names — BG and Centrica. The provenance of the former is easy to guess; the latter, though, was dreamt up to signify "quickly moving and dynamic". The appropriateness of the rebranding was felt by former British Gas shareholders this week as the

shares of the newly demerged Centrica. move quickly and dynamically down. British Gas assets are now divided into BG plc, the gas supply and pipeline business, and Centrica, the retail side.

Centrica is also laden with the "take or

pay" contracts and the Morecambe Bay gas field. These two factors continue to

cast a shadow over the future perfor-

mance of the company, as analysts in the gas market are not entirely clear what their impact will be. On the first day of trading, a total of 54.5 million Centrica shares changed hands and the price fell by 13.5 per cent to 65% p while 20 million BG shares changed hands lifting the price by 22p to 1742p.

esterday the shares were 682p and 1752p, respectively. This compares with the share price of the merged British Gas, at the end of last week, of 2472p. This represents a net loss to the estimated 1.7 million small shareholders in British Gas, Sids,

The price of Centrica was not helped by a pronouncement from Merrill Lynch, the broker, that the shares could be worth as little as 40p, though a trading range of 40p to 80p is expected. Many financial advisers advise clients to sell Centrica. The stock may be very volatile and no dividend is likely in the foreseeable future. Mathew Orr, of Killik & Co, the broker, said: "This is not the type of company many small investors thought they were buying when they invested in British Gas. BG pic, the biggest part of the company, currently yields 7.1 per cent, high in comparison with other utilities. Some advisers advocate holding BG shares for the dividend alone. But these may be cut in future, as it is being examined by Clare Spottiswoode, the gas regulator, who wants greater competition. The Monopolies and Mergers Commission is also looking at pricing issues.

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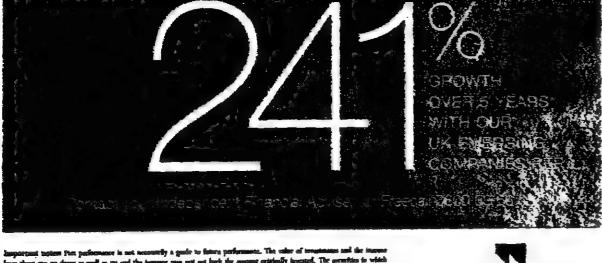
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thics have come out of the theology class and into the real world.

Everyone, it seems, wants a

piece of the action. Swampy.

the anti-roads protester, has captured the nation's heart

with his burrowing antics in Devon. Meanwhile, Diana,

Princess of Wales, continues to command public respect with her campaign against Britain's export of landmines.

Increasingly, investors, too, are demanding that their money is used ethically. In

well as a clear conscience.

David Mott, CIS spokes

man, said: "There is a feel-

good' factor to investing in

ethical funds. Many people say they want to invest in their

children's future financially.

but then ask themselves what

kind of world are they going

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Investors in search of a piece of the ethical action



Diana, Princess of Wales, has pricked the public conscience

to be living in? Ethical investment works on both fronts. providing a good return and tempting to solve some of the problems we have today." As a result of this pressure funds such as Friends Provident Stewardship, Jupiter Ecology, NPI Global Care and Credit Suisse Fellowship are going out of their way to promote ethical businesses. These funds use positive criteria to select companies in conservation, pollution control and the manufacture of safety

also look for companies with a sympathetic approach to their employees, and particularly how they fit in with the local community," she said, "Many of our investments are in small companies with high research-and-development. budgets. Often they are the higgest employer in the area."

This approach works well with small companies but can be problematic with larger organisations, which can have unethical operations alongside more worthy sides

funds would invest in large.

mais, but they may happily focus on smaller biotechnology companies. On average, chical funds are invested in only 30 per cent of companies on the FT-SE 100 index.

Alan Perkins, fund manag er of Family Assurance's United Charities Ethical Fund. which has just been Pepped, says new issues and demergers are hard work for the ethical manager, who has to examine the company thor-

oughly before it lists.

Because of the complexity.

ethical funds turn to organisations such as the Ethical Investment Research Service (Eiris) in London and the Manchester Business School to help them to compile a list of eligible investments.

These organisations regularly survey companies' attitudes and business practices. If you are interested in ethical investment Eiris also provides a list of independent financial advisers who specialise in the ethical arena. Further information is available from Eiris on 0171-735 1351.

However, all this research does result in extra charges. Although NPI and Jupiter have cut initial charges to 4.5 per cent and 4 per cent respectively, the average for the sector remains 5 per cent, around 2 per cent higher than many conventional alternatives. Anmual charges tend to be more than 1.5 per cent, higher than the industry average.

f course, as with all investments, periormance, not charges, is the key. Fortunately, ethical investors do not have to pay for their conscience. Over the past five years only Clerical Medical Evergreen has obviously underperformed peers and the FT-SE 100. Funds such as Eagle Star Environmental Opportunities. Allchurches Amity and City Financial/Acom Ethical have broadly matched the £1,675 return that a £1,000 investment on the FT-SE 100 index would have given you.

Top of the pile is Credit Suisse Fellowship, which grew an impressive 134 per cent, turning £1,000 into £2,339, closely followed by Framington Health with a return of £2,222. The latter, however, is not stricly an ethical fund, although it bears all the hallmarks of one by focusing on the US biotechnology sector. Both funds also get high ratings from the Allenbridge Group, which judges funds on consistency as ratings from vell as overall performance.

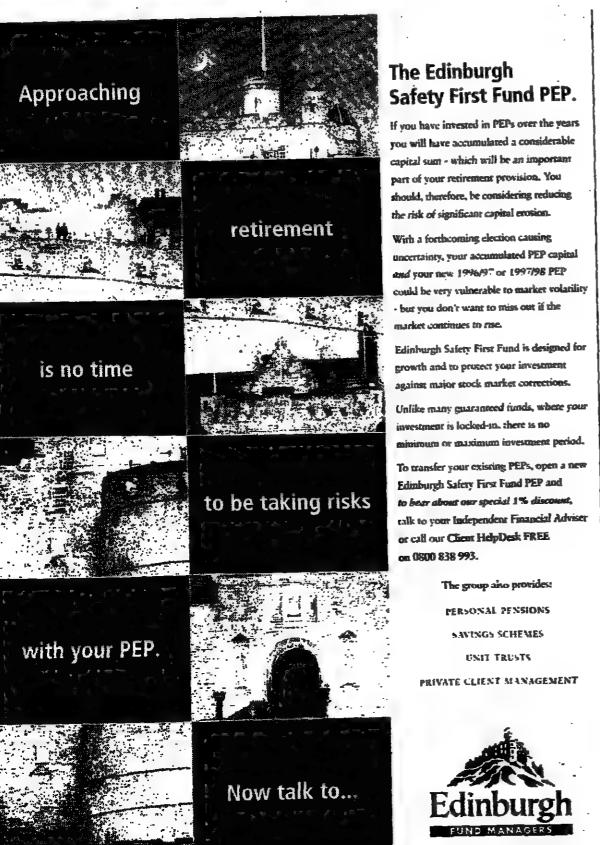
firm in London, publishes a free guide to ethical funds.

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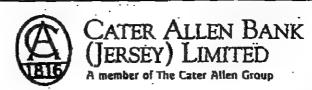
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Caroline Merrell on the plan to stop shoppers from losing interest

# Sainsbury banks on new services

weekly shopping will take a new twist in the coming months as three of the United Kingdom's biggest supermarkets begin to roll out banking services for their customers. Millions of people will now have access to credit cards and savings accounts which will give them discounts off their weekly shopping bills.

I Sainsbury this week un-veiled its plan to offer banking services to its ten million customers via a joint venture with the Bank of Scotland Sainsbury is spending around £30 million on the bank, through which it hopes to encourage greater customer loyalty and reverse its ailing fortunes. Sainsbury has begun to lose market share to Tesco and Safeway, and earlier this year was forced to issue a profit warning - an action that hit the share price and cut its market capitalisation by E375 million

Sainsbury cited increased competition with the other supermarkets as the cause of the downgrade in profits from £710 million to £640 million for 1996 to 1997. Four million of this decrease was attributed to the launch of the bank, while a further £10 million reduction was attributed to the extra costs of its Reward loyalty card - a scheme that generates discounts for customers.

Sainsbury's Bank will offer a choice of two credit cards and two savings accounts. The credit cards can be used to build up reward points that can generate discounts on the weekly shopping bill, while the instant access saver account offers a market-leading interest rate of 5.75 per cent.

The other account, the monthly Christmas saving account, offers an interest rate of 2.5 per cent, plus an annual 3 per cent bonus if no money is withdrawn before the end of

The 5.75 per cent interest compares with rates of between 0.75 and 3.15 per cent offered by Barclays, 0.5 and 3.25 per cent offered by Halifax, and 2 and 3.23 per cent offered by Midland.

Kevin McCarten, Sains-

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Supermarket first: the new Sainsbury's Bank will be available initially in 244 stores



Gold VISA, £25 the tree for first year APR-14,7-15.3 per cent. Classic VISA, £10 fee, free for first year. APR-18,5 per cent. Reward points given for every £1 spent at Seinaburys and Sevacantre and also for purchase at other outlets. Reward po

bury's marketing director, said: "We're pleased to be the first supermarket to open a bank and offer our customers choice and flexibility."

The bank will be available initially in 244 stores, including 115 Sainsbury stores, five Savacentres and 124 Home-

complicated reward point sys-Sainsbury's, Savacentre or Homebase using one of the credit cards and Sainsbury's reward card will generate two points. Every £1 spent on credit cards at any other retailer will generate half a reward point.

claim a £2.50 discount voucher, which means customers could benefit from a I to 2 per cent discount on their shopping bills. Sainsbury is also offering so give Air Miles in points generated through spending at other outlets will not qualify to be

swapped for Air Miles. Saving in the Christmas account can also bring benefits 2.5 per cent interest and the 3 r cent bonus can be waived in favour of the points — a saving of £40 per month will one year, plus 451 bonus points, representing a saving of £8.70 on groceries.

· Sainsbury's Bank does not offer overdrafts, nor does it have any intention of doing so. A spokeswoman said: "This is a savings account, not a cur-

Sainsbury's Gold Visa card has an annual fee of £25 and an APR of 14.7 per cent, while the Classic Visa card has a £10

stores do not have to emphasise that it is not launching a bank. The store is conjunction with Abbey National - the account offers 5 per cent interest and reward points for spending. Safeway

Tesco, on the other hand, chose St Valentine's Day to Bank of Scotland to set up a joint venture offering financial offers Clubcard Plus, a savings account offering 5.5 per

Tesco plans to offer a credit

The banking services come tem. Each £1 spent at

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in terms of reward points. The

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#### fee and an APR of 18.5 per cent. The annual fee is waived for the first year. The lowest APRs on the market are from RBS Advanta and the People's Bank of Connecticut, at 11.9 per cent and 14.4 per cent fferings from the other quite the same range. Safeway, for instance, is keen

may offer a fuller banking service at a later date.

abandon its link with NatWest

card in the summer and add additional products, including savings accounts and personal insurance, at a later date.

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For example, on an estate of £600,000 (including house, contents, personal effects, stocks and shares, bonds, trusts, cash, life assurance and any inheritances) the Exchequer stands to be an equal beneficiary. If there were three children each would receive almost £150,000 but the Exchequer would take £154,000.

And that share can be quite dramatic.

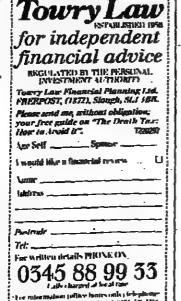
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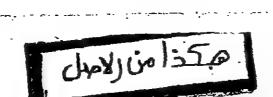
moment. LHLT. does not just apply to the very rich, it applies to everybody with assets above £215,000.

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Take a ten-year view when assessing funds, says Gavin Lumsden



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# Which is most trustworthy?



For most first-time equity investors choosing pooled funds, such as unit trusts and investment trusts, investing in the UK is the natural step. But how have these funds performed in the long term?

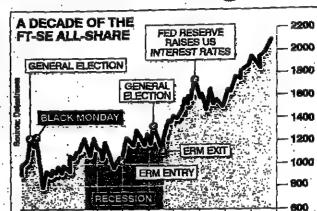
Fund managers often quote their five-year performances, but ten-year periods are more useful because consistent performers are more likely to come out on top. A longer time period also enables you to judge how funds have coped with adverse market conditions as well as the good times.

A ten-year view also helps to put stock market falls into perspective, such as the 400-point drop in the FT-SE All-Share after Black Monday in October 1987. The wave of forced selling from distressed investors even forced some fund managers temporarily to suspend their unit trusts.

Since then the index has suffered three major falls as the economy struggled through a recession and reacted badly to the first increase in US interest rates in February 1994. Despite this the overall direction has been upwards, and in the past two years a built run has taken it to record levels.

Propelled by this economic momentum, all but two of the 353 funds investing in the UK have made money for their holders over ten years. However, there is a wide disparity of returns and investors should review their funds regularly. Fewer than half of the UK-

focused unit trusts have a tenyear track record, demonstrating the frenetic pace at which investment funds have developed. Of the 305 that do, Newton Income has triumphed. Had you invested El.000 in this fund in January 1987 and reinvested all the



income, you would have E4,814.12 today. By contrast, investors in Evermore Recovery would have only E1,242.86. Nevertheless, 283 unit trusts would have doubled your

However, only 10 per cent of these UK unit trusts actually beat the All-Share index in total returns. According to Micropal, the statistics provider, the index would have turned the £1,000 into £3,267.53 over the past ten years, a feat which

only 28 funds were able to beat. Doesn't this illustrate the incompetence of tind managers in the City? Shouldn't we switch to tracker funds, which dispense with the stock-picking skills of fund managers by buying everything on the index? Not necessarily, says Chris Poll, head of Micropal. He points out that the index is only a guide and does not include the cost of dealing in shares.

None of the unit trusts tracking the All-Share actually has a ten-year record, but if they did their result would likely be much lower than the index. It is impossible for trackers to match the index precisely, and all have a small tracking error. More importantly, what trackers save on fund managers wages they pay back in the increased expenses of dealing in every available stock.

The average unit trust charges investors between 1.25 per cent and 1.5 per cent of their

E4,814,12 E4,593,07 E3,896,96 E3,872,12 E3,863,37

11,525,58 11,525,58

E1,289.31 E1,242.86

mid to mid, net

holdings a year, which is equivalent to around 18 per cent over ten years. If you subtract this from the All-Share return you get less than £2.680. Using this figure the number of "successful" unit trusts quadru-

ples to 120. This still leaves 185 funds in the dust.

Although investment trusts charge less in annual management fees, it is worthwhile comparing them against the figures for unit trusts. Overall, investment trusts provide higher retorns but with higher risks. Some 15 of the 48 investment trusts investing in the UK with a ten-year track record returned more than £2.680, around three times the proportion of unit trusts, with 26 exceeding the costed All-Share figure. 34 more than doubled

the £1,000 initial invesment.

The top performer was Candover which returned £10,861.83 on the £1,000 investment. However, comparison with the All-Share is unfair as this is a high-risk venture capital fund investing in unlisted companies outside the index.

I owever, at the bottom of the table are the unfortunate capital shareholders of Jove, a split capital trust, who have seen their investment plummet to just 1259.74.

Nigel Thomas, fund manager of the second-placed Pembroke Growth unit trust, says the search for portfolio diversity leads many managers to underperform the index. Many fund managers, like Mr Thomas, would be rejuctant to hold BP and Shell together even if doing this reflected the make-up of the index.

Investors are paying fund managers to get their bets right. Jonathan Fry, investment director of Premier Fund Managers in Guildford, says it is no good letting them off the hook. He advises investors to copy the professionals.

He says: "Look at what the

professionals.

He says: "Look at what the pension funds do, they hold triannual beauty parades and if the performance has not been up to scratch they change the manager or put him on 12

That is what private investors have to do. Too many take their pension or choose a unit trust and never review how it is

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MINENTIAL FOR STORE

Karen Zagor on what investors should do when markets are high

# Play safe for a steady income

larly that trying to time stock market investments is a fool's game. After all, any-one who listened to the stock market bears and left their money in the building society last year would have missed out on one of the great bull runs of all time. But for many would-be investors, the rash of stock market record highs can Ilead to a real dilemma.

sin lumden

When markets are exceedingly high, there is a very real danger that they will plummet. Anyone able to take a 20-year view of the stock market should he able to ride out any storm. but investors near retirement do not have that luxury.

At the same, those near retirement may be most in need of a way of boosting their income, and equity invest-ments are often the best way to supplement a pension and compensate for a lost salary. Most advisers would agree

a three-year or four-year view on their investment should steer clear of stocks. But even with markets at record levels, anyone who can take a longer-terin view should probably have some equities in their

portfolio.

Mark Bolland, of Chamberlain de Broe, the independent financial adviser, says: 'l am a bear, but it is riskier to be out of the market than in. The problem is, you could wait six months anticipating a crash and the market could hold its own.

"With the market so high, it makes sense to dribble your money in, either in monthly or quarterly instalments, and to make sure you have a good investment mix with some exposure to tracker funds, equity funds, individual stocks and preference shares to get the income you need. But you should always have a out if there is a market

How you structure your investments will depend largely on your income needs. If you have £250,000 to invest. perhaps from the sale of your family home, and you need an extra £500 a month, you could generate the income by leav-

ing the money in the bank. Other relatively safe income-generating options in-clude gilts, which are currently yielding about 7.5 per cent and preference funds, which yield about 8.5 per cent to 9 per cent. But there will be some capital erosion with these investments, and the best place to compensate for that depreciation is in the

Jonathan Gumpel, Brooks Macdonald Gayer, the independent financial adviser, says: "If you want complete security, I would advise stick-

stock market.

society. But for anyone who is 55 and looking for income over the next 20 years. I would probably advise being invest-ed with a proportion of their funds perhaps set up as a quarterly savings plan to phase in the money.

For people coming to us with cash, we would generally advise only being 45 per cent invested, then phasing in the other 55 per cent over a period of years. We would accelerate phasing the money in if there

was a market fall."

Mr Gumpel believes that investment trusts are good value at the moment for investors looking for income because the prices already reflect con-cern about the high markets and a number of investment trusts are trading at a discount to their net assets.

e expects the discounts to narrow eventually, so investors should be able to profit from the narrowing, as well as receiving income from the

investment.
. "I would think a combination of UK high-interest funds such as Investo Convertible, plus Scottish Mortgage for an element of growth and some-thing like Murray International. which is wholly international, to take advantage of the strong pound at the moment would be a good mix." Mr Gumpel says. Nervous income investors

can take heart from the know-ledge that, at a time of high markets, they are in a stronger position than those investing for capital growth.

With the recession behind us, we are not in a period where companies are cutting their dividends, so even if the market crashes there should be a continuing stream of income.

So if you invest in solid companies with a good business and a good cashflow, then you should continue to receive income, in the form of dividends, even if the share price dips. And there is always the possibility that the share price will have recovered or even improved by the time you decide to sell.

## Guinnesss Flight offers a frontier punt

less nights worrying where their money is going, the death this week of Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese leader, provides an excellent opportunity to get into the world's most exciting ty to get into the world's most exciting

emerging market.

Helped by the free market reforms which Deng introduced in 1978, China has been repeating the extraordinary economic miracle of nearby Japan and Taiwan and is forecast to grow 10 per cent a year until the year 2000. With nearly a quarter of the world's population, the country is poised to become the economic superpower of the 21st century, in much the same way that the US

giant hinterland beyond it. Certainly, that is the hope of Guinness Flight which today launches its Hong Kong and China unit trust. The company launched an offshore China fund a year ago which has achieved nearly 30 per cent growth for sterling investors.

oward Flight, Guinness Flight managing director, says political uncertainty means Hong Kong and China are undervalued compared with the US and UK. With consolidate his position and the handover of Hong Kong imminent, this uncertainty is bound to persist.

However, there are other reasons for giving China a wide benth. While its burgeoning middle class will become more vocal for political freedom, the army that perpetrated the Tiananmen Square massacre is still ready to back the Communist Party. Growing economic inequality is also causing enormous pressures in China's regions, with some pundits predicting a break-up of

the country. Investing in a "frontier" market is only for the intrepid.

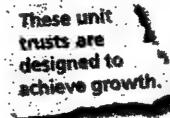


TO PROTECT investors against a 1929-style stock market crash, Brooks Macdonald Gayer is recommending the Close Escalator unit trusts from Close Fund Management.

The 100 fund provides complete capital protection if the market falls, while allowing investors to benefit from a portion of any rise in the FT-SE 100 index. The 95 fund gives greater exposure to stock market

gains while limiting losses to 5 per cent of capital. Unlike most guaranteed funds, there is no lock-in period and the funds are unit trusts and as such taxed as capital gains and not income. Minimum investment is £1,000, or £100 per month. Readers of The Times can buy the funds at a 2 per cent discount until March 20 through Brooks Macdonald Gayer (017) 499 6424).

# the car of the future. Some 1982 predictions were more Profitable than others.



	Value of £1,000 invested on 18.2.82*	Value of £50 per month since 18.2.82	Quartile
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PROLIFIC SPECIAL SITUATIONS	£11,729	£25,289	1
PROLIFIC TECHNOLOGY	£13,815	£40,895	1

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Over the long term, however, such a mixed portfolio of assets offers the prospect of a real capital growth.

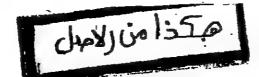
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# Plan your strategy for long-term care

ong-term care should not be treated in financial isolation but should form part of a full financial planning strategy, according to a new guide published by the David Aaron Partnership.

the David Aaron Partnership.
With government benefits likely to be reduced for the elderly, most people will have to supplement the costs of care from their own investments or income. The guide explains the various types of insurance available, how to maximise savings and how to boost pension income to guarantee a comfortable retirement.

The guide also details the Government's proposals for the future. For a copy of Long Term Care for the Elderly, write to the David Aaron Partnership. Shelton House, High Street, Woburn Sands, Milton Keynes, MK17 8SD. Enclose a cheque for £2.

Trust tax issues has been produced by Northern. Venture Managers. Tax Questions & Answers provides information on initial investments, income tax exemption gains tax deferral. The booklet is based on the questions investors and their advisers most often ask Northern Venture tax issues to the product of th

ture Managers about VCTs Call 0800 163 201.

Nationwide Building Society has launched a two-year fixed-rate bond offering a return of 7 per cent gross per annum. Minimum investment is £1,000. No access to money invested in the bond is allowed in the first year. The bond can be closed in the second year at a loss of 180 days interest. Call 0800 302000. Nationwide is also running

a Savings Challenge to all investors. The society believes that it can beat the rates of most top financial organisations and offer a better savings deal. For further information, call 0500 302010.

Investment trusts can pro-

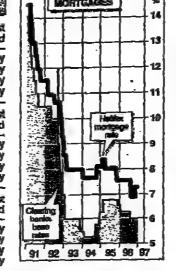
vide a cost-effective alternative to the traditional endowment method of paying off a mortgage, according to a factsheet from the Association of Investment Trust Companies (AITC). Topics covered in the free guide include the mortgage market and interest rates, how to repay a mortgage using investment trusts and how to monitor your investment. Call 0171 431 5222.

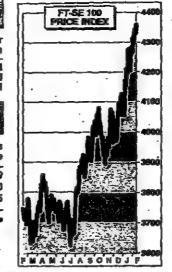
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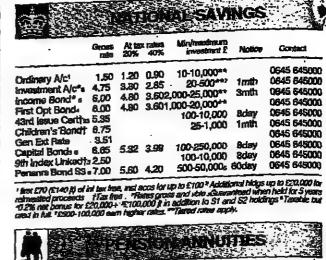
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Buckinghamshire BS 01494 873064	Children Gold	Postal	£5,000	5.80	1∕≥Yly
Northern Rock BS 0500 505000	Select Inst	Postal.	25,000	6.35	Yh
Bristol & West BS 0800 901 109	Instru Postal	<b>Postal</b>	210,000	6.40	Yh
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NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS	Account	of term	Deposit	Rate	paid
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First National BS 0800 558844	30 Day Notice	30 day p	£10,000	6.30	Yh
Norther Rock BS 0500 505000	Select 60	60 day p	210,000	<b>6.50</b>	Yh
Birmingham Midshires 0500 070707	First Class 90	90 day p	210,000	6.55	Yī
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FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	of term	Deposit	Rate	paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505	Fxci + feeder a/c		\$8,575	7.50	F/Yh
Investec Bank (UK) 0171 626 0879	Prem + feeder a/		29,000	7.20	Yh
Holmesdale BS 01737 245716		5 year	\$2,500	7.00	Yh
West Bronwich BS 0990 143888		5 year	£3,000	7.00	Υĥ

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PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING







purchase), guarantee single life (level ann)	Male:	Age 60	Age 65	Ą
Sun Life Level Canada Li Level Generali Level Canada Level Level		£ 9,636 £ 9,647 £ 9,624 £ 9,603	210,747 £10,728 £10,666 £10,638	£12 £12 £12
Prudential Level Royal Sun All Level		€ 9,429	£10,573	£12
SINGLE LIFE	Female:	Age 60	Age 65	Ag
Canada Life Level Prudential Level Sur Life Level Norwich Union Level Generali Level	•	£8,948 £8,943 £8,825 £8,838 £8,729	£ 9,757 £ 9,701 £ 9,620 £ 9,598 £ 9,588	210 210 210 210 210
JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)	Male: Female:	Age 60 Age 55	Age 65 Age 60	Ag Ag
Canade Life Level Prudential Level Sun Life Lavel General Level Stalwart * Level	. •	28,520 28,503 28,438 28,400 28,318	£9,140 £9,098 £9,064 £9,032 £9,011	510 53 53 53

Source: Arm	uty Direct (017) 588 8393)
	Compiled by: Lizanne Rose

	GUARANTEE	D INCOME BO	
	ANN	UAL INCOME	
	Rates as a	February, 20, 1997	
	Investment (£)	Сотрапу	Standa Rate (
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	10,000	. AlG Life	5.40
	20,000	AIG Life	5.55
	50,000	Financial Assur	5.65
2 Years			-

5,000			
5,000			
	Financial Ausur	5.30	
10.000	. AlG Life	5.40	
20,000	AIG Life	5.55	
50,000	Financial Assur	5.65	
1,000	Hambro Assured	4.90	
3.000	ITT London & Edin	5.80	
20.000	AIG Life	5.85	
50,000	AIG Life	5.90	
	•		
1,000	Humbro Alssured	5.15	
3,000	ITT London & Edin	6.05	
1,000	Hambro Assured	5.55	
3,000	TIT London & Edin	6.35	
1,000		5.80	
3,000	MT London & Edin	6.50	
	1,000 3,000	1,000 Hambro Assured 3,000 MT London & Edin	1,000 Hambro Assured 5.50

FIXED RATE	Gross	Buying price	Gross yield	price	purchase		
Simingham Midshire	9.375%	109.47	8.547	100.17	1,000		
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	134.26	8.858	100.13	10,000		
Bradford & Bingley	13,000%	150.06	8.663	100.20	10,000		
Bristol & West	13.375%	155.25	8.615	100.34	1,000		
Britannia	13,000%	150.06	8.663	100.42	1,000		
Coventry	12,125%	141.17	8,550	100.75	1,000		
First National	11,750%	132.37	8,876	100.25	10,000		
Halifax	8.750%	105.33	8,307	100.62	50,000		
Hatilax	12,000%	140.33	8,188	100.28	50,000		
Hailtax	13.625%	182.24 156.15	8,398 8,586	100.00	50,000 1,000		
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375% 10.750%	126.91	8.446	100.32	1,000		
Newcastle Newcastle	12.625%	147.99	8.531	100.45	1.000		
Northern Rock	12.525%	149.16	8.464	100.14	1,000		
Skipton	12.875%	150.34	8.584	100.48	1,000		
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FLOATING PLATE	Gross	Buyii pri		ujos	bractiese serviros		
Chushire (20/09-27/03	8.41563%	111.	00 100	000	1,000		
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Midland	3.93	£100k+	80	3% discount for
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Building Societ Bristol & West 0800 119955	3.50	£15k+	95	3.75% discount for 12 months
Newbury 01835 43576	3.99	215-150k	26	3% discount for 12 months
Lambeth 0171 926 1331	3.99	£18-150k	<b>9</b> 5	3,25% discount for 12 months
Benks				
Brdk of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6,50% disc 6 mit 3% disc 6 miths
TSB Bank 0500 758000	3.51	£15k+	. 95	3,74% disc for 12

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LIND COLD VI	204.30	***	- 0.30	***	MEARL ARSURANCE The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PEZ-6FY, D733-479-479
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S Empt Ania IN Acc	371.93	70:00	- 5.90 - 4.30	-:	COUNTY FORM /11/01 19/00 + 280
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You that ould have

#### Ernie becomes a lottery

MONAL SAVINGS

CHICAL SHOULD

From Mr F. R. Yule Sir, It used to be said that if one had the allowed maximum holding of Premium Bonds the chances of winning a prize were in the approximate region of 1.1 to 1.

Now that the number of prizes has been reduced, has anyone worked out what an individual's chances are now?

For those of us who were satisfied with little and often and a tax-free income approximating to the average yield. Premium Bonds represented a real investment, now it seems that we are participating in a monthly National Savings

Maybe Ernie was just get-ting tired churning out the bread and butter his investors crave and has ambitions to be on television? Yours faithfully,

under "pension drawdown".

From Mr J. B. Slack 🗼

Sir, I have followed the saga of

the treatment of disabled

Woolwich and Halifax ac-

count members with interest

because i am such a person. I

have been a member of the

Woolwich for 29 years and my

wife has had accounts in the

Halifax for six. I have used a

Fortunately, I am the first-

named person on a joint

account in the Woolwich, so

the farce of being a disabled

i do, however, feel insulted

that such people are treated in

this insensitive manner. Dis-

abled people, who need carers

to deal physically with their financial affairs, have lost out a great deal on life aiready and

many are in dire mental and

financial straits without yet

another embarrassing "slap in the face", having to fight for

Although it would require

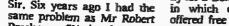
what is rightfully theirs.

Poerson not qualifying for

shares does not affect me.

wheelchair for five years.

F. R. YULE, I The Orchard, 7 Tipperlinn Road, Edinburgh.



Automatic transfers between accounts

WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

From Mr N. R. Hill Sir, Six years ago I had the Breckman (Weekend Money letters, February 15) with automatic transfers between my current and deposit accounts. I recommend that he transfers his account to the Royal Bank of Scotland. As a chartered accountant he will surely qual-

ify for a Gold Cheque Account in which case he will be offered free transfer of funds into and out of a Gold Deposit Account, for example, and can set an upper limit on the balance to be automatically maintained in the cheque account. Yours faithfully, NEVILLE HILL

109 High Street, Portsmouth.

#### Time delay costs money

From Mr I. McEwan Sir. My wife and I paid the first instalment of tax under selfassessment by direct funds transfer on January 28, this year. The money would have reached the Inland Revenue the next day, in plenty of time to meet the January 31 deadline.

We were surprised last week to receive a statement for my wife indicating that her pay-ment had reached the Revenue on February 4 and, being a late payment, was subject to interest. The Cheltenham tax office advised us that if the payment was late my wife must pay the interest and, in future, we should make adequate arrangements to ensure payments arrive on time.

My statement of account arrived on Saturday and showed that I had paid my tax in full on January 27. Yours faithfully, IAN McEWAN, The White House Alderton, Tewkesbury.

#### Pension drawdown Admittedly, an annuity must annuity purchase at 75 or be purchased by age 75 under current legislation, but, even and annuities earlier, inasmuch as the income generated is surplus to then, funds can remain investrequirements as would seem From Mr R. E. Lee ed in equities and driven by to be the case from Mr

Sir, I write in response to either a with-profits or unit-Adrian Simmonds's letter (Feblinked portfolio. The question of a gilt-driven annuity need ruary I) in which he asserts his wish to "invest at least a not arise if the annuitant is not portion of a large pension fund accumulated into equities". predisposed towards such an accumulated into equation accumulated into e investment medium. Although the capital ele-

Building societies insult disabled members

ment is lost to the pooled fund of the insurance company on

some effort, the societies could

register disabled qualifying

members by using orange

card numbers or some other

meaningful system. I am sure

the rules of the societies would

soon be changed if one of the

directors was in such a predic-

ament. No future conversion

should have any excuses for

this type of exposure. The

societies have time to put their

There is time for the Wool-

wich, between now and July 7,

to implement an administra-

tive structure, but the resolve

is, for the time being, sadly

a member, were to be thus

treated, there would be a major input from the RSPCA

and prosecutions threatened

by that organisation.
Your faithfully,
JOHN SLACK,

St Neots, Cambridgeshire.

2 Field Cottage Road,

Eaton Socon,

and insultingly, lacking. If a disabled camel, possibly

houses in order,

#### ploneering product introduced in 1994 by The Equitable Life known as the managed annuity. The difference between managed annuity and cur-Simmonds's comments, this rently available plans? Under could be fed directly to one's managed annuity, the policy heir or into some kind of holder was not compelled to buy an annuity at any age. Yours faithfully, savings plan written under suitable trust for inheritance

ax avoidance. ROBERT LEE Incidently, the current excel-Olivers Farmhouse. lent pension drawdown facili-Meadow Road, is developed directly from a Wickham Bishops, Essex.

#### EGT ALLOWANCES — JANUARY 1997

The indexed rise for calculating the indexation allowance on assets disposed of in January 1997

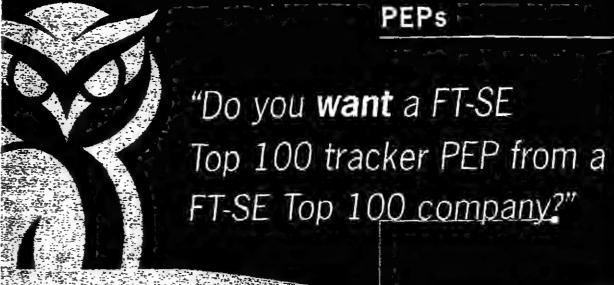
	purchased	1962	1983	1984	1965	1986	1967	1968	198
:	STATE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN	-	0.889	0.778	0.693	0,604	0,544	0.495	0.391
	February	-	0.861	0.771	0.679	0.598	0.538	0,489	0.381
	Microbi	0.944	0.858	0.765	0.884	0.596	0.536	0.483	0,379
	April	0.905	0.832	0.742	0.629	0.581	0.517	0.459	0.351
	May	0.892	0.824	0.735	0,622	0.578	0.515	0.454	0.343
	Aprili May June	0.886	0.820	0.731	0.818	0.579	0.515	0.448	0,33
	July	0.886	0.810	0.733	0.621	0.588	0.517	0,447	0.337
	August	0.885	0.802	0.717	0.617	0.578	0.512	0.431	0.333
	Saptember	0.886	0.794	0.713	0.618	0.571	0.508	0.424	0.324
	October		0.788	0.703	0.615	0.568	0.500	0.410	0.314
	Homeline		0.782						
	Dogambar		0.777						
		1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
	Jenuary	0.292	0.188	0.139	0.120	0.008	0.058	0.028	
	February	0.285	0.180	0.133	0.112	0.087	0.051	0.023	
	Mierch	0.272	0.175	0.129	0.108	0.084	0.047	0.019	
	April	0.234							
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0.205 0.151 0.112 0.093 0.067 0.030 0.008

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0,185 0.143 0.104 0,089 0.063 0.031 0,004

0.188 0.139 0.106 0.090 0.063 0.031 0.003 0.189 0.138 0.109 0.088 0.058 0.025 Nil



67%<sup>-†</sup> tax free growth
This is how much the FT-SE 100 Share Index has grown in the five years to
December 1996. So a PEP which tracks the index can offer a worthwhile poton

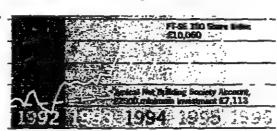
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The FT-SE 100 Share Index means the largest UK companies quoted on the Stock Exchange - which includes thany household names that you will recognise.

If you've not taken a PEP this tax year act now - after 5 April you'll have lost your 1996/97 tax free allowance. Regular savings application - minimum £30 a month - must be received by 28 February, lump sum applications - minimum £1,000 - by

is and the income from them can go down as well as up.



th of the FT-SE 100 Share Index against a typical Building Society Account 10 minimum Investment. Source: Micropal 13.12.96. Offer to offer prices, a featurestment, based in UK Starling, calculation: http://www.128000j.

The information reflects our understanding of current legislation and tax regulation which are both subject to change.

The Guardian Direct Top 100 tracker PEP is a unit trust investment so the value of the units and encorne from them can go down as well as up. On the encashment of the units you may receive back less than you invested, in the event of the income from the trust being insufficient to meet the annual fund manager's fee and other allowable expenses, then the manager reserves the right to be remunerated from the capital value of the trust. Tax legislation may change in the future. The value of any tax relief depends upon the financial circumstances of the investor.

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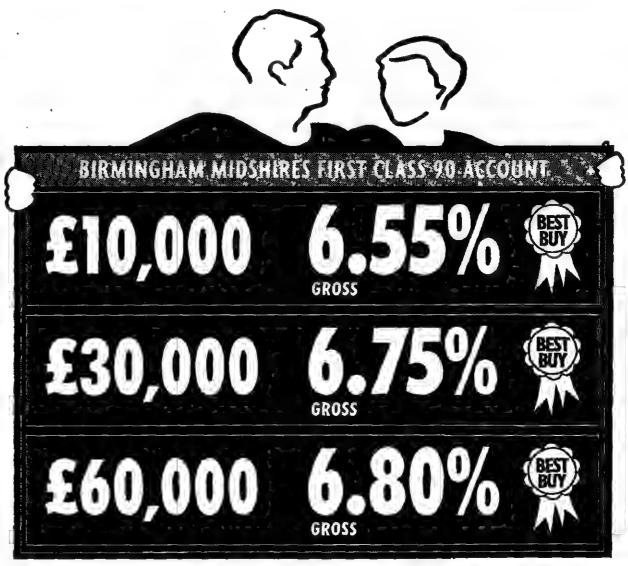
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# Call It A Day to post Kempton success

DAVID NICHOLSON CRIT land the Racing Post Chase at Kempton this afternoon -- but not with the horse he fancies most among his three runners in the £50,000-added race.

Nicholson believes Percy Smollett, runner-up behind Rough Quest 12 months ago. represents his best chance and he asked Adrian Maguire to ride the top weight in today's renewal. "I think Percy Smollett is the best I have ever had him and I asked Adrian to ride but he said he wanted to be on Call It A Day. He loves him," Nicholson said yesterday.

To complicate matters fur ther, King Lucifer, theoreticalthe third string from Jackdaws Castle, is arguably the form choice of the race,

#### RICHARD EVANS

Nap: CALL IT A DAY (4.10 Kempton Park) (3.50 Haydock Park)

judged on his excellent second behind General Command in the Great Yorkshire Chase.

However, I believe Maguire has made the right choice by selecting Call It A Day, a progressive seven-year-old who has never been out of the frame over fences. He was not far behind the best novices last term but began this campaign

on a lenient handicap mark. His defeat of Lord Gyllene at Uttoxeter, where he gave 16lb to the subsequent winner of three races, reads particularly well now. After a good post-freeze run in Ireland, when all Nicholson's runners were a gallop short, Call It A Day stepped up successfully in trip at Newbury 14 days ago and won well. He will not be inconvenienced by coming just lack the necessary class.



Royaltino leads Award over the last flight on his way to victory in the Bedfont Novices' Hurdle at Kempton Park yesterday

back to three miles, arguably his best distance, and runs off the same handicap mark.

An ability to handle all ground conditions, ranging from good to firm to soft, could be vital. Percy Smollett, having his first run this term. definitely appreciates the mud. King Lucifer, outpaced at crucial times this season, may also need more demanding going. His two chasing victories last term came in moderate races and he may

See More Business will have his supporters after twice finishing runner-up to Dorans Pride, a leading Cheltenham Gold Cup fancy. However, his jumping can be sketchy and no novice has won this race since Don't Hesitate, who carried 9st 9lb to victory in 1977. Dextra Dove looks weighted up to his best while Encore Un Peu, without a win for two years, and Mudahim

would appreciate further. While Kempton's card should offer several Chelten-

ham Festival clues, Haydock will provide useful Aintree pointers. The Greenalls Grand National Trial has attracted an excellent field but is a tricky race for punters with useful horses like Suny Bay and Buckboard Bounce

returning after an absence. Lo Stregone runs off the same mark as when winning last year and, after excellent thirds behind Coome Hill in the Hennessy Gold Cup and Seven Towers, the subsequent Eider Chase winner, blinkers

have been relitted to Tom Tate's out-and-out stayer. He Away from the gaze of the

levision cameras, Nicholson can register a quick short-priced double with Sammartine and Viking Flag-ship (Kempton 1.55 and 2.25) while the in-form Jimmy Fitzgerald could repeat the trick at Doncaster with Cover Point (4.15) and Dual Image (4.45). On the same card, John O'Shea has found an ideal

treble, while at Haydock, Celiate (3.50) can advertise his Arkle Challenge Trophy claims at the expense of Flying

At Musselburgh, Shana-wogh (3.10) should appreciate the drop in class after possibly needing the run when a disappointing favourite behind King Pin at Ayr last time. The and-distance winner, can give weight away to his four rivals

defeat of Pleasure Shared at · Haydock five weeks ago gives

him a favourite's chance here.

with five runners out of the

handicap and question marks

against his main rivals.

Escartefigue has been crying

out for this kind of trip but

still looks poorly handi-

capped. Gillan Cove, without a win

for two years, is making his

seasonal debut while Castle-

kellyleader, Pharanear and

Conquering Leader are re-turning to hurdling after en-

joying mixed fortunes over lences. Of those, Pharanear

makes the most appeal as an

3.35 Summer Spell 4.10 Encore Un Peu 4.40 Pheraneau

5.10 Sir Prize

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SOING: GOOD

.55 DOVECOTE MOVICES HURDLE (Grade II: £8,792: 2m) (7 rumers)

11 SAMARTHNO 32 (CDLFS) (K Abdelsis) Distriction 5-11-10 ... A Magney CLASSY LAD (M Buddey) N Hunderson 7-11-3 ... R Generoody States of Laboration of Convention of Conve riine, 7-2 Sistema, 8-1 No Pallero, 12-1 Polycheron, 14-1 Minier Rm, 16-1 olb 1880: IOMANICINY 6-11-3 M A Fizzjunski (7-1) M Handerson B con

2,25 EMBLEM CHASE (26,645: 2m) (5 numers)

iog Pagalah, 5-2 Martho's Son, 6-1 Archic Krasson, 50-1 Martingland. 1996: VICING RLAGSHIP 9-12-0 A Magalan (1-2 lan) D Michalson 5 ran

3.00 PENDS. MOVICES CHASE
(Grade It. £12.160; 2m 4f 110yd) (6 runners)

201 28911 STATEN HOME 21 D.F.S.) (J. Joseph) P. Hontos 6-11-10

202 24121 STATEN HOME 21 D.F.S.) (P. Bontes) P. Bontos 6-11-10

203 131-113 APRINDED THE GALE BY BLOSS (P. Wingson) Mrs. A Pornett 8-11-13

204 131-121 APRINDED THE GALE BY BLOSS (P. Wingson) Mrs. A Pornett 8-11-13

205 132-122 LIMID ANAR 21 (G.F.S.S.) (Floret) P. Westler 10-11-7

206 256-122 GLINDA 14 (F.F.S.) (Floret) P. Westler 10-11-7

206 256-122 GLINDA 14 (F.F.S.) (Mrs. J. Pornett) N. Turklon-Bontos 7-17-1

207 258-123 GLINDA 14 (F.F.S.) (Mrs. J. Pornett) N. Turklon-Bontos 7-17-1

208 258-124 GLINDA 14 (F.F.S.) (Mrs. J. Pornett) N. Turklon-Bontos 7-17-1

209 258-125 GLINDA 14 (F.F.S.) (Mrs. J. Pornett) N. Turklon-Bontos 7-17-1

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200 258-125 GLINDA 15 (Mrs. J. Pornett) N. Turklon-Bonto

FORIM FOCUS

3.35 VOICE NEWSPAPER ADOMS JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (Grade 8: 4-Y-0: 28,750: 2m) (10 runners) O1251 RED RAIA? DUS. SU JAM P Michael 11-5.

1481 SEPAUM 15 (0,6) (M Archer, Mars J Broadharad) III Tunistan-Darles 11-2.

348 SUMMER SPELL 15 (0,0) (M & Mars Reduction) III Tunistan-Darles 11-2.

348 SUMMER SPELL 15 (0,0) (M & Mars Reduction) II Hundreston 11-2.

222334 BBB BURDEN 70 (F) (Mas N Malley) S Weedman 10-12.

4 CHARRES 22 (Commod T Commod 10-12.

2 SPEC 22 (M Beloward) D Eleverith 10-12.

L'OPERA 15 (F) STANES Named At Maldounty D Michaeleon 10-12.

35 PROVINCE 70 (J Broad) C Mars 10-12.

2410 FARRY SHARP 104 (D.1) (Ma C Broan) 16-19.

1988: 238901 4-10-12 A Magnitus (7-4 bir) D Masheliner 9 mm

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4,10 PACING POST CHASE

(Handicap: grade #f: £51,300: 3m) (9 rugners) 

BETTING: 9-4 Call It'A Day, 3-1 See More Business; 5-1 Ring Lectus, Parcy Streight, 6-1 Encore Un Pau, 10-1 Despa Done, 12-1 Majariers, 33-1 Sisten Asber, 50-1 Forest Sen. THESE PROPERTY COURSE TO TO TO BE COMMONDE (S-1 last) I Comm II am

FORM FOCUS

PERCY SMOULETT 19/1 2nd of 8 to Rough Quest to grade if Backey Post Handicay Claser over marks set debesses (2015) as parallelists set. Feb. 19 Sections (2015) as parallelists set. Feb. 19 Sections (2015) as parallelists set. Feb. 19 Descent (2015) and (2015) and

MSSELBURGH

Page 18th Carry St. Page 1

Branch Commencer

4.40 RENDLESHAM HURDLE (Limited handicap: grade II; E12,035; 3m 110yd) (11 runners) 39-1211 OCEAN HARM 35 (FD.F.E.S) (M. Archar) N. Teriston-Durker S-17-7 C. Liberchyn 85
1432-63 ESCARTER-FOLE 15 (S) (D. Marcely) N. Teriston-Durker S-17-7 D. D. Britgarner S-111-FeP CASTLEGOLLY (E-MORE S) (F. Barber, M. Cabrer, T. Carryl P. Nichola, B-10-11 P. Holte - 170-225-5 GLAIM COVE SSS (D.S.) Form Racing) P. Nichola P-10-9 A. P. Michola, B-10-11 P. Holte - 170-225-5 GLAIM COVE SSS (D.S.) Form Racing) P. Nichola P-10-9 A. P. Michola, B-10-11 P. Holte - 170-225-5 GLAIM COVE SSS (D.S.) Form Racing) P. Nichola P-10-7 A. Nichola - 170-225-5 GLAIM COVE SSS (D.S.) Form S. N. L. Presch N. Homberger L. Holte - 170-225-5 GLAIM COVERS (D. Marcely) J. Marcely N. Homberger L. Holte - 170-225-5 GLAIM COVERS (D. Marcely) J. Marcely N. J. Marcely S. S. Carrato - 170-225-5 GLAIM COVERS (D. M. S. S. Carr

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5.10 KEMPTON STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT PLAT RACE (£1,413: 2m) (17 runners)

2m) (17 FURNESS)

1 ARCTIC CAMPER 38 (D.C.) (Lody Furnest D. Nichotson 5-11-18 A. Margarin L. SCOWNIS PEDISFREE 68 (G.) (Wilster Revising Press; J.) Marsino 5-11-18 S. Curson 5-18 EISER 63 (Group W. Glaboro, M. Cilboron) N. Nichotson-Davies 5-11-3. M. Kelajaring (7) 60 EVALDERROUN 19 (SEP. Okto. D. Wilderman) J. Galbort 6-11-3. S. Luitol (7) 60 EVALDERROUN 19 (SEP. Okto. D. Wilderman) J. Galbort 6-11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (SEP. Okto. D. Wilderman) J. Galbort 6-11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (SEP. Okto. D. Wilderman) J. Galbort 6-11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. Luitol (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 61 EVALDERROUN 19 (Marsin 19 11-3. S. CERIOT (7) 6

BETTING: 2-1 Arctic Camper, 6-1 Mister Brown, 10-1 Social Fedigree, Woodstock Wendson, 12-1 others. 1990: JOHN DRIJAM 5-11-3 Mr P Scott (14-1) P Webber 19 7kg

**COURSE SPECIALISTS** Mrs A Perrett O Gandollo C Mayo P Webber R Ahrer T Forctor

Hereford, is virtually playing at home today when he saddles make the North Hereford meeting (Carl Evans writes).

Jackson, whose leg is still in plaster after a fall in November, has vinning chances with Perfect Light, although stablemate Grimley Gale will only run if the ground is not too soft.

TODAY'S POINT-TO-POINT MEETINGS: Berwickshire at Friera Haugh, W of Kelso (first race).

12:30); Bohemor Hamiers at Lemelle, Bm SW of Leurosaton (11:30); Stocklesbyret Backhasty.

Park, 10m W of Gentreby (1:20); N Havelord at Waterick, Mahron, 8m Mg. of Harriston (12:00);

Similington at Duncorate Park, 12m E of Thints (12:30); Suffolk at Ampton, 4m N of Buty Steamunds (12:30); TOMORROW: Mid Surrey Drag at Charing, 12m E of Mediatone (12:30).

#### The Grey Monk favoured by return to shorter trip slightly fortunate to beat White Sea at Newbury 15 lot of beating. On his previous start he finished second to 3.00: The admirably game Stately Home and Greenback Coome Hill in the Hennessy

f.15: In a tight juvenile handicap, the progressive Rossel makes some appeal. The winner of four races over hurdles. for the in-form Peter Monteith, the former Michael Stoute-trained gelding jumps particularly well. The form of his latest success has been boosted by the subsequent victories of Jackson Park, Double Agent and Cry Baby. Font Romeu, a rare 25-1 winner for Martin Pipe last time, looks to have plenty of weight and Meltemison is a bigger danger.

1.45: Provided his confidence has not been affected by a heavy fall in Ireland last time, A Stand at Newbury 14 days

at Newbury, where he was probably outstayed. The re-turn to 2½ miles should suit him well. After making uncharacteristic jumping errors behind Go Ballistic on fast ground at Ascot, Major Beil should appeciate this easier surface and holds each-way ciaims.

2.15: Despite being unbeaten over hurdles, Juyush failed to impress at Sandown nine days ago when his jumping was far from fluent Mistinguett is the clear form choice on her fourth to Make



ago and her course and distance success over Dato Star and Bimsey last month. Moorish bounced back to form last Saturday but that was over half a mile further on softer going.

ON TELEVISION

both like to force the pace so there will no hanging around. Although Land Afar is weighted to reverse Sandown form with Stately Home, Paul Webber's runner finds little off the bridle.

Fine Thyne has won all three chasing starts at Kempton and holds claims but Around The Gale is the choice. David Gandolfo's well-regarded six-year-old jumps particularly well and has plenty of speed, so should be able to keep tabs on the front runners before pouncing in the straight.

days ago when Charlie Swan appeared to make an error of judgment on the runner-up. Nevertheless, that was a useful performance in a stronglyrun race and he is the form choice. Whether he will reproduce that on this sharper track is questionable and Grief looks a viable each-way alternative.

His second behind Shadow Leader (winner since) in a fast-run novice hurdle at Folkestone is now looking a decent effort as fourth-placed Kings Witness won easily at Huntingdon on Thursday.

4.10: see above.

each-way alternative. RICHARD EVANS



#### RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Southwell (AW, 2.20), Newcastle (2.10), Plumpton (2.00) TUESDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 200), Catterick (150), Leicester (210) WEDNESDAY: Wolverhampton (AW, 2 10), Taunton (2.20) Watherby (2.00) THURSDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 2.25), Huntingdon (2.00), Ludiow (2.10), Wetherby (2.20)

FRIDAY: Southwell (AW, 215), Kelso (220), Newbury (200), Plumpton (2.10) SATURDAY: Lingüeld Park (AW. 2.20), Wolverhampton (AW. 7.00), Doncaster (C4. 12.50) Newbury (BBC, 1.15), Warnick (1.30)

Flat meetings in bold

Pick up the phone

PICK UP A £10" FREE BET

FOR FIRST TIME TELEPHONE CALLERS

staking £25 or more using Switch or Delta bank

RACING POST CHASE (HANDICAP) 3 miles, Kempton 4.10pm, Live on CH4 TV.

> 11/4 See More Business 6/1 King Lucifer

**6/1** Percy Smollett

13/2 Encore Un Peu

10/1 Dextra Dove

25/1 Sibton Abbey

Each way One Fifth the edds a place 1,2,3. Prices subject to fluctual Available up to 3,55 pm. Tattersalls Rule 4(c) may apply. Non runner - I

TO OPEN A CREDIT ACCOUNT FREEPHONE 0800 289 892 WILLIAM HELL RURES APPLY.

• Teletext on CH4 P601/602/603

RING TODAY - BET TODAY

Free bet is a 510 Straight Forecast on the Kempton 4.10pm today.

The first term of the control of the

- 0800 44 40 40

11/1 Mudahim

40/1 Forest Son

9/4 Call it A Day

or building society debit cards.

HAYDOCK PARK THUNDERSON

1.15 Meltemison 2.45 LO STREGONE (nap) 3.20 Absolutly Equiname 3.50 Celibate 1,45 The Grey Monk 4.25 Hanin Croft Star 2,15 Mistinguett

GOING GOOD

1.15 SCHLITZ VICTOR LUDORUM NOVICES HUHOLE (Limited handicap, 4-Y-0, £5,016: 2m) (7 rusness) 0041 PORT ROMBU 11 (0.5) (Para House God) at Pige 11-10
413271 PORSEL 36 (0.5) (4 Methids, 2 Morach, 11-15
521331 MACKSON PARK 28 (0.0) (5 Severa 1 Excepts 11-4
521271 GUBE RUMBER 14 (0.0) (6 3 2 Sahar 15), J. 10 Net 10-11
10 SRU GAR 28 (0.0.5) (4 Methids, 13 Severa 15 (1.1) Tilled 10-11
10 SRU GAR 28 (0.0.5) (4 Methids, 10 Severa 16-11
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10 SRU GAR 28 (0.0.5) (4 Methids, 10 Severa 16-11
10 SRU

RETTING. 2-1 Ford Reside. 5-2 Rossel, 5-1 tto Mera Flexille. 6-1 Jackson Park, 7-1 Moleculari, 8-1 Globa Riginar 18-7 Sto Guz. 1996: MARCHART MAIG 11-4 E GASTy (7-0) 41 Hastrand 9 sec FORM FOCUS

POINT ROMES! best Circus Star 5f in 23-anners nonce hardle at Leicester (2m, good to cist).

ROSSEL hard Soldar nect in 12-anners nonce hardle at Leicester (2m, good) in 2M ACASSON hardle at Leicester (2m only good) in 2M ACASSON hardle at Leicester (2m only an anners nonce hardle at Leicester (2m only anners nonce hardle at Leicester (2m only an anners nonce hardle at Leicester

1.45 BLACK BEATH VOOKA HANDICAP CHASE (£14,332, 2m 4f) (7 runners) 11-127 THE GREY MORK 20 (CD.G.S) (A D.G.) S Bedrach 9-12-3
P.331-43 LINGLE STHE 84 (CD.G.S.) (Last) List) Bedrach 9-12-3
P.341-43 LINGLE STHE 84 (CD.G.S.) (Cast) List) Bedrach 12-11-4
P. Commander A 65 (D.G.S.) (C.S.) (Last) List (Cast) 11-11-5
P.341-123 MAJOR SELL 63 (D.J.G.S.) (Last) Major 13-11-4
P.474 (D.G.M.2) (D.S.) (E. Righard) M. Free 11-12-4
P.474 (D.G.M.2) (D.S.) (E. Righard) M. Free 11-12-4
P.474 (D.G.M.2) (D.S.) (E. Righard) M. Free 11-12-4
P.474 (D.G.M.2) (D.S.) (Righard) M. Free 11-12-4
P.474 (D.G.M.2) (D.G.M.2)

SETTING: 8-11 The Gely Mont. 7-2 Mayor Bull. 8-1 Copponents, 9-1 Under Erne, 12-1 Textor 28-1 others. 1996: MOTOCRA 8-17-10 P Cachesty (7-4 Sec) P Johnson 2 cm FORM FOCUS

THE GREY MORN 4 2nd of 11 to Coome 169 in Heavening Gold Co.) hundring class at Research Gold Co. A 110yd, good to penalterate start. URGLE STANCE LEAST 294 2nd of 5 to Ack 16th on hundring class at Newbory Con. At 1, good, COONAMARA Const at Newbory Con. 11, good, COONAMARA Const Gold St. 18 11 11-penalterate start good to the control of the Gold St. 18 11 11-penalterate class at Newbory Con. 41 110yd, good), New 95 MAJER 15 Cookers 17th Cookers 20 110yd, good), New 95 MAJER 15 Cookers 17th Cookers 20 110yd, good).

2.15 STRETTON LESSING SELECT HURDLE 0191-60 TRACE HERO 25 (E.C.) G.S. Maget hade Pattern Wilder 5-11-12 GF See St. 12214 MISTREADETT 14 (CD.F. G.S. II Chapter) Wilder 5-11-7 Gilland CD. 12114 MISTREADETT 14 (CD.F. G.S. II Chapter) Wilder 5-11-7 Gilland CD. 1111 JUNUSH 9 (O.S.) WISSH 1 (Cd.S-11-4) Wilder 5-11-4 J. Gilland CD. 1614-70 MISSRED FET 85 (O.C.S.) Guers of Gilland Wilderson 5-11-4 D. Saynes 91 (Cd.S-11-4) WILDERSON (CD.S.) (F. Berner, N. Harderson 5-11-4 D. Saynes 91 (Cd.S-11-4) WILDERSON (CD.S.) (F. Peter, N. Harderson 5-11-4 MISSRED SHADE (CD.S.) (F. Peterson 5-11-4 MISSRED SHADE (

ETING 24 Makeyet, 52 Japan, 72 Moords 84 Engant Fee Page Hay 1841 Name, 284 Moother 1996: MYSLY 6-11-7 A Maguille (4-6 bat C Egyptic 7 cm FORM FOCUS

TRACK HERO beat Dearn: End pack is 19-const point in Sweden Headle over track and declares (point), step 36 MSTREERT Test that Sars 4 in 9-mans goals in Character Test that herde nest coases and declares (point to firm) on penalsmals start, with TRACK HERO (700 bettes off 64 MSTREER HERO) (700 bettes off 64 MSTREER HERO (700 bettes off 64 MSTREER HERO) (700 bettes off 64 MSTREER HERO (700 bettes off 64 MSTREER HERO (700 bettes off 64 MSTREER HERO (700 bettes off 64 MSTREER HERO) (700 bettes off 64 MSTREER HERO (700 bettes off 64 MSTREER HERO (700 bettes off 64 MSTREER HERO) (700 bettes off 64 MSTREER HERO (700 bettes off 64 MSTREER HERO) (700 bettes off 64 MSTREER H

2.45 GREENALLS GRAND NATIONAL TRIAL HANDICAP CHASE (Grade II: £49,984: 3m 4f 110yd) (7 namers) BBC1 Long bundless are Tile had 9-8, to make the way 6-7.

HETTINGS 7-4 to Strayma, 4-7 Surp Bay, Codyld Bu Bobs, 5-1 Belmant May, 9-1 bits The Bint, 10-1 allow, 10-10 C F Swan (7-2) T Tale 11 cm FORM FOCUS

DOULDAT BE BETTER was Corymands (A) is 14-more goods 3 Thyriaes Andican Disco. If Cores Park Das, goods (1) STRESONE 19 all styling Again 1%) in 7-corner goods if Reharms (1) is 5-more color and the styling Again 1%) in 7-corner goods if Reharms (1) is 5-more color and (1) is 5-more color and (1) is 5-more color and (1) in 7-corner goods (2) in 6-corner families (3) in 7-corner families (3) in 6-corner families (4) in 6-corner families (4) in 6-corner families (4) in 7-corner goods (5) in 6-corner (5) in 7-corner goods (6) in 6-corner (6) in 7-corner goods (7) in 6-corner (6) in 7-corner goods (7) in 7-corner goods (7) in 6-corner (6) in 7-corner goods (7) in 7-corner goods (7) in 6-corner (6) i 3.20 SPORTING LIFE MAINER MIRROLE (E3,165: 2m 6f) (16 runners)

1990: MMCGEORGE 6-11-7 P McLoughto (7-2) R Los 19 No 3.50 BELLCHARM REMARLT NOVICES CHASE (E4.486 2m) (4 numers) ### BECLEGORIER TECHNICAL SECTION OF BELLEGIES PROBLEM CONTROL OF SECTION OF ETTRIC 4-7 College, 2-1 Flying technolor, 18-1 Final Kinner, 16-1 Healthwards Boy

1996. SPINNSH (1890) 7-11-12 M Dayer (11-10) C Richards 4 and 4.25 TARVIN STANDARD NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (12 TORNES)
AMERIC FOR LI Mitchelly bles M Vingla 5-11-7

BUCKS FREEF 25 (J Astrony) A J Witson 5-11-7

BUCKS FREEF 25 (J Astrony) A J Witson 5-11-7

BARRIS CROFT STAR (R Restand) B Mitchelson 6-11-7

HARRIS CROFT STAR (R Restand) B Mitchelson 6-11-7

POLITICAL POWER IN Wisdon W Jests 6-11-7

PORTALAN 28 (? Leychel W Mitchelson 5-11-7

SPROPSHEE CALE (A Structul S Brookshar 6-11-7

BUSHANDOO TI (Einst Laberd G Friedrash 6-11-7

BUSHANDOO TI (Ei BETTIME: 5-7 House Coalt San. 5-1 Posteron, Winte Games, 6-1 Annie Feb., Linguisti, 10-1 Posterol Prime, 15-1

1996: BALLAD MINISTREE. 4-10-5 E Calleghan (S-1 last ) Filippositi 19 ale

**COURSE SPECIALISTS** 75 250 22 227 35 222 55 194 20 153 72 119 KICKEYS 7 **Q**9 **85 31** 17 394 11 172 53 264 63 254 C F Swam C Maude G Bradley A Original J Osborne P More

DETENDS: 4-1 Sir Bab. 9-2 Commence. 5-1 Templin, 6-1 Abrolody Systems, 8-1 Babusy Felcon, 10-1 Law Die Dies, 16-1 Albert MARK JACKSON, who runs a livery yard at Westhide, near

DONCASTER: Trainest: N Twiston-Davies, 6 wirners from 19 curriers, 31.8%; N Handsson, 4 from 14, 28.6%; T Easterby, 4 from 15. Foster, 3 wirners from 15 fistes, 20.0%; Parker, 7 from 43, 16.2%; J Callagraint, 8 from 32, 21.6%; Mrs M Roveley, 15 from 74, 20.3%; J Accounty, 15 from 74, 20.3%; J Accounty, 3 from 19, 15.8%; R Gamily, 5 from 43, 11.8%; (Orly qualities); Lindingue Hait, 11 from 55, 19.5%; J College Hait, 11 from 55, 19.5% Revoley, 15 from 74, 20.3%, Jackeys, P. Neven, 12 whreen them 55 index, 21.9%; JA LINGSELD. Trainers M Bell, 8 whinters from 35 runners, 22.9%; Lord hardingdoit, 47 from 184, 11.8%; (Only qualities).

MUSSELBURGH: Trainers: M Heavmond, 30 winners from 119 numers, 25.2%; C Parker, 11 from 46, 23.9%, Mrs M Reveley, 12 from 51, 23.5%; N Timber, 8 from 34, 23.5%; S Winnersh, 35 from 770, 20.6%; W Ryan, 18 from 107, 12.5%; D McAcont, 18 from 107, 16.6%; C Scally, 5 from 34, 14.7%.

DONCASTER = 2.00 Sousse. 2.30 Bell Staffboy. 3.05 Star Rage. 3.40 Fitzwilliam. 4.15 Noyar. 4.45 Dual image. 5.15 All Done. GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) 2.00 OPEN MORNING SELLING HURDLE (£1,640: 2m 110yd) (20 runners) (21,640: 2m 110yd) (20 turners)

1 3335 CLILRAIN 102 (P) I Cathrell 6-11-9 Michael Bremein (3)
2 313 PROLID MARKET 9(D.F.) & MicCourt 5-11-8 OF Fork (3)
3 517 DAME PROSPECT 799 (S) Mess M Rowland 6-11-4 P Midgley (3)
4 0 GREEN (RING 30 A Jones 5-11-3 J Mess M ROWLAND (3)
5 MARCIAL BLUSE REZE Mess A Brimmens 5-11-3 J Ryen (6)
6 0332 DAMELEY 10 (RF) Mess 1. Sedell 5-11-3 T Sedell (7)
7 PR66 0332 DAMELEY 10 (RF) Mess 1. Sedell 5-11-3 T Sedell (7)
8 -000 AUTUMN PLANE 16 0 Browns 6-10-12 M Bremson 9 00 MILL DAMCER 11 P Host 5-10-12 E Harrisond (3)
10 445P REVERANK ROSE 63 (N) W Clay 5-10-12 E Harrisond (3)
11 4900 SHARMSOOR 14 Mess 1. Signall 5-10-12 O Pears 12-42-5 BLUSHTSHOOD RALL 16 R Hollestend 4-10-7 Gary Lyons (3)
13 4020 BUY BLANCERY 35 Mess 5 Sign 4-10-7 Regular (4)
14 00 GODE RED 31 W Main 4-10-7 R Greek (3)
15 16803 ARCH AMEG 31 6 Christs-Somer 4-10-2 W Michael (3)
17 RAW DEAL 2009 6 Burnet 4-10-2 W Michael (3)
18 0004 SULSSE 8 (RF) Mis Ni Revelop 4-10-2 G Gargiere RENOS TREASURE 17F J A Harris 4-10-2 G Gargiere RENOS TREASURE 17F J A Harris 4-10-2 G Gargiere (1)
19 0004 SULSSE 8 (RF) Mis Ni Revelop 4-10-2 G G Lee (3)
19 19 0004 SULSSE 8 (RF) Mis Ni Revelop 4-10-2 G G Lee (3)
19 19 0004 SULSSE 8 (RF) Mis Ni Revelop 4-10-2 L (Herroy)
10 19 0004 SULSSE 8 (RF) Mis Ni Revelop 4-10-2 L (Herroy)
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10 19 0004 SULSSE 8 (RF) Mis Ni Revelop 4-10-2 L (Herroy)

2.30 COME BEHIND THE SCENES HOVICES CHASE (£2,973: 3m) (4) 1 0-11 SELL STAFFBOY 14 (C.F.S) J 0'Shea 8-11-10 2 2412 MCNYMOSS 32 (6) Mar S Smith B-11-4 Michael Beausen (3) 3 OPFO AR MODIVATOR 30 T Raddy 7-10-12 S McLad 4 22-0 SEYMOUR SPY 119 Mrs A Healt B-10-12 S Whyten

4-5 Peli Staffoy, 6-4 Monymoss, 8-1 Seymour Spy, 20-7 Mr McChatter. 3.05 DONCASTER RACECOURSE SPONSORSHIP CLUB HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,897: 2m 110yd) (10) CALISCE BAY 28 (D.F.G.5) O Singwood 8-12-0 J A McCarthy
2 0-31 STAR RAGE 14 (D.F.G.5) O Singwood 8-12-0 J A McCarthy
3 129- FRIGALEY 364 (C.D.G.5) S Rictards 11-11-12 Michael Bromata (S)
4 00-4 SPEDIWELL PRINCE 84 (D.F.R) I Vetton-Davins 7-11-11 T Jupits
5 1141 SHRWIN EDGE 28 (D.F.R.5) T Eastby 5-17-3... B Finites
6 1PU- SERME SEED 371 (C.B.S) R Henderson 9-11-1... W McFadand
7 2552 DESSET REGITER 14 (D.F.R) Mars M Revelby 6-10-7. P Mercal
8 4142 BARGROS SOMEPHICK 18 (B.F.G.) 1 Familiane 5-10-6. B Gases
9 -PPO DECIDE YOURSELF 7 (D.F.S) I Transcance 7-10-5... J Calisty
10 5027 SAMAND 8 (D.F.G.) Miss L Stodelf 3-16-2... O Pears
7-2 Ser Rage, 4-1 Frichtey, 5-1 Callison Bay, 5-1 Speedwell Prince; 8-1 Shinley
Edge. Barlord Sovereign. 70-1 Sessione Sand, Desert Fighter, 12-1 others.

 $\checkmark 3.40$  racing is fun juvenile hovices **HURDLE** (£2,485: 2m 4l) (12) ## A Baiding (7)

221 FIZWALIAM 18 (F) | Saiding 11-4. Mr A Baiding (7)

102 DESALLOWED 25 (6) Mass H Waylet 10-13. J Carlony

102 AMAZING SAL 14 Mass U Melition 10-12 Michael Bersons (5)

1 31 ANNA SOLEL 11 0 Serviced 10-12 J Michael Bersons (5)

2 31 ANNA SOLEL 11 0 Serviced 10-12 J A MicCarlon

PP GALF OF SAM 18 J Macket 0-12 T Elsy

5 6 8330 MORE ESPRIT 22 J Cent 10-12 F Leaby (5)

6 70 PORT VALENSKA 14 (8) J L Hurts 10-12 D Saidaghar

10 00 FECRUTMENT 33 J Tomer 10-12 M Serviced

9 00 STAR BLAKENEY 25 B Banest 10-12 S Wywns

10 30 TAR BLAKENEY 25 B Banest 10-12 R Gieset

11 3903 TOPASLOW 11 P Dation 10-12 B Fection

12 50 PREGOUS ISLAND 13 P Dation 10-7 Berson

13 Supplies 7-4 Pitamiliaru, 5-2 Disabourat, 4-1 Anna Solmii, 8-1 Tagallay, 12-1 Topagiton, 18-1 Non Esprii, Artiszing Sani, 20-1 adhers.

4.15 BAWTRY HOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,600: 2m 3f 110yd) (7) 9-4 Novan, 3-1 Assmort-Speed, 4-1 Cover Point, 8-1 Key To Moyeds, 8-1 Stage P'arts, 10-1 Aco's Promise, 12-1 Glamangido.

4.45 FUNNINGLEY HANDICAP CHASE (£2,885: 2m 3l 110yd) (4) 4-P3 OVER THE POLE 21 (D.S) P Channels 10-12-O Mr C-Bonner (3) 51-41 CLAL BLASE 8 (F.S.S) J Physicial 15-11-12. Results 51-5-J JSON'S BOY 9 (F.G.S) J Brookly 7-10-5. Results 52-4U KAREKASTINO 9 Mrs 5 Smit 6-10-0 R Williams (7) 1-2 Dual Image, 5-2 Over The Pole, 8-1 Jeson's Boy, 12-1 Karenssipe.

5.15 DONCASTER INTERMEDIATE NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Marss: £1,035; 2m 110yd), (9) 261 CCUATTRY ORCHIO 25 (0.5) May M Revalvy 6-11-9 P Minum
MEMISARER OFESTEEM 5 Goldwar 6-11-2 K Gunde
300 RACHEL LOURES 30 T Kadob 5-11-2 K Gunde
300 RACHEL LOURES 30 T Kadob 5-11-2 K Gunde
0 CELAVIEL 5 N Chambridian 4-10-5 Minum 6 Minum
0 CELAVIEL 5 N Chambridian 4-10-5 Minum 6 Minum
1 LADY MINUM LADY J Brazilly 4-10-5 R Foreign
LADY BOCO F CORD 4-10-6 R Foreign
1 Side By SIDE 15 C Thomas 4-10-6 MY Warnington
1 The Cord 2-1 AB Done 9-2 Style M Side R-1 MY Warnington

MUSSELBURGH

2.10 Swift Riposte, 2.40 Movec, 3.10 Sharavogh, 3.45 Montrave, 4.20 Here Comes Herbie, 4.50 Double Agent, 5.20 Far Ahead, . GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES)

2.10 royal bank of scotland maiden **BURDLE** (Div I: £1.720. 2m) (8) SIOP BLOOD BROTHER 16 J Berzley 5-11-7. D Perier

2540 LAUCHING FONTAINE 81 F Rapply 7-11-7. M Fosser

0 RASIN STANDARDS 78 R Craggs 7-11-7. We M Teoretor

0 ROMALDIGHK 8 Y TEORETOR 5-11-7. We M Teoretor

02-4 SWRT REPORTE 16 F Exercited 6-11-7. B Supplie

03-4 ANASTASIA WRIDGER 350 (Y) D Metad 8-11-2. D J Motad

1 JAMANZAN FLIGHT 7 Mrs S Laureton 4-10-17. E Chilaghan (3)

0 PEARLS OF THOUGHT 16 A Windless 4-10-4. S Taylor (5) 5-7 Immercan Fight, 7-2 Sent: Reposite 9-2 Laughing Festigies, 5-1 others.

2.40 FIONA P CRAIG NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,688. 3m) (11) 

3, 10 ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND EBF NOVICES **MURDLE** (Qualifier: £3,105: 2m 4f) (7) 130 ASIARCITE (MRC) 30 of all Hamsond 7-11-18 E Calegian (5)
1214 SHAMAYDEH 28 (D.BF.S) E Mone 6-11-10 . J. Calegian
2059 SURIS SHOULK 25 7 ACC 5-13-0
0-50 CARST AT LAST 22 Les la Teveley 6-11-0 . G. Calett
P-44 CLAVERNS 19 H (30000 7-11-0 . A S Emith
1-50 DRAGWRATH 11 (10 R Bottlet 7-11-0 . A S Emith
1-50 DRAGWRATH 11 (10 R Bottlet 7-11-0 . S Teylor 5)
1-50 THE SHARRIWH LEGEND 25 L Schron 5-11-0 S Teylor 50
100 THE SHARRIWH LEGEND 25 L Schron 5-11-0 S Teylor 50 B-I Stone for 5-2 Atlantic Wied, 4-1 Clarence 6-1 Caught & Last, 12-1 Disease. 37-5-1 The Sharpe Legand, 20-1 Book Book.

3.45 SCOTTISH LIFE HANDICAP CHASE (\$3,200: 2m 40 (5)

8-1 Maximus, 5-2 Judicial Pasis, 3-1 Bayers Dream, 4-1 My Daloy, 10-1 Pishy Dea.

4.20 scotmid Handicap Hurdle (£2,580:  $2\pi$  45) (9) 

4.50 EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY TURF CLUB JUVENILE HANDICAP HURDLE (4-Y-0: £2,580: 2m) (7) BI DOUBLE AGENT TO COUR H Jerman 12-0 ...... A 5 Smith OFIZ JOE SHAW 11 Mis M Resety 11-5 G Carlill
OOT CRY BADY 14 (D.S) A Whiless 11-4 S Daylor (S)
305 CAYORAWA 98 A Whiless 11-4 S F Ryes (S)
5800 DOUBLE DASH 11 (V.F) D Malett 11-0 D J Mortan
050 PERPETUAL LIGHT 125 J Daies 10-10 C Tollegton (S)
ROOD BROKENSTON BAY 22 9 Effect 10-0 C McCharmack (F) 7-4 Double Agent, 5-2 Jon Sharr, 4-1 Dry Baby, 8-1 Drysumann, 8-1 others.

5.20 ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND MAIDEN HURDLE (DIV II: £1,720: 2m) (8) 4-5 For Ahead, 3-1 Tilasi, 5-1 Helpestry, 8-1 Hordes Legend, 12-1 others.

LINGFELD PARK THUNDERER

1.50 Hawaii Storm. 2.20 Roffey Spinney. 2.50 Roman Reel. 3.25 Rash Gift. 3.55 Robo Magic. 4.30 English Invader, 5.00 Le Sport. GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.50 MERLIN SELLING HANDICAP (Div E £1,784: 1m) (12 runners) 1 6480 MANABAR 11.J (B.D.G) M Polytics 5-9-10... T 6 McLaughin 8 2 0215 HANNAN STORM 7 (CD.E.S) 0 Memoh Davis 9-9-9 3 2-30 RUISHING GREINADER 22 (V.G.B) M Festerston-Grolley 5-3-4
4 2648 STLDES COVE 93 (D.S) M Medis 7-4-0... D Sentiney (S) 2
5 000- CHRI HEIGHTS 57 (V.G.S) K Bischop 7-5-12... T Sprain 9
6 4-12 SOLD HARIT 18 COLLEGI J Percer 12-8-11... G Bardwell 1
7 000- ARUIT 71 J Stenden 4-8-8... A Collegi One Wands (7) 6
8 455 LACHESIS B D Richalls 4-9-8... A Collegi One Wands (7) 6
9 441 ASSTRANCES 2 (C.R.S) I Bridger 5-4-6 (Sent. A Collegi One Wands (7) 6
10 8-00 SWEST AMORET 39 (6) P Haming 4-8-5... F Restins 4
11 0-06 SHAYINGS DOWNARD 25 (D.G.R Richar 5-7-12... J Calmer 3
12 -005 BRIGHT PRARADOL 21 (C.F.S) K knop 8-7-10... M Alexes 12
11-4 Hamid Scom, 4-1 Bright Halis, 7-1 Bloghing Germatike. Juntamer 8-1
11 Marie Scom, 4-1 Bright Halis, 7-1 Bloghing Germatike. Juntamer 8-1
11 Million Comm. 4-1 Bright Halis, 7-1 Bloghing Germatike. Juntamer 8-1
11 Million Comm. 4-1 Bright Halis, 7-1 Bloghing Germatike. Juntamer 8-1
11 Million Comm. 4-1 Bright Halis, 7-1 Bloghing Germatike. Juntamer 8-1
11 Million Comm. 4-1 Bright Halis, 7-1 Bloghing Germatike. Juntamer 8-1 11-4 Hannik Storm, 4-1 Bold Habil, 7-1 Bhathing Grenadies, Justinianus, 8-1 Soldier Core, Manabar, 12-1 Lackweis, 14-1 others

2.20 BUZZARD HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £3,323: 51) (8) 1. 3-53 MIGHTIMEAU SONIG 10 (5) M Microte 9-7 D Streemy (5) 12 0-31 ROFFEY SPRINEY 11 (C,6) R Historia 9-8 S Sandieri 13 242 RUES MARIC 7 (V,9) M Std 9-2 S Sandieri 14 2-32 CRSTLE ASSEY AGEX 11, 6) P Homisig 8-13 F North 2-1 Rolley Spinney, 5-2 Hover Bolf Lower, 5-1 Castle Ashby Jack, 7-1 others.

2.50 MERLIN SELLING HANDICAP (Div H: £1,784: 1m) (12) DAY II: \$1,784: 110) (12)

1 230 ROMAN REEL 130 (C.D.F.6) & L. Moore 6-8-11 & Whitworth 9
2 08-10 LIME PROJECT 8 (6.5) M. Johnston 5-9-9. D. Holland 1
3 6325 OLER SHADEE 14 (V.C.F.6) K. both 7-9-9. C. Scally 12
4 2022 STATECLAN 7 (6.5) John Berry 5-8-13. J. Outen 11
5 -300 GAID LANCE 14 (2) R O Salven 4-8-10. D. Harrison 6
6 00-0 AMARTEL 45 (V.S. Mellor 4-8-8. M. Arlama 4
7 0-45 SPECTACLE MAI 18 (6) 8 Pence 8-8-8. G. Gallagher (7) 3
8 00-8 GREY LESEND 44 (8) R Flower 4-8-8. M. Wilgiann 2
18 500 SAUDO THE TRAINET 14 (D. R. Spices 5-8-3 & Branches 5
10 -000 SOUND THE TRAINET 14 (D. R. Spices 5-8-3 & Branches (5) 10
11 130 WINGOUT 18 (8.5) R Ingorn 4-7-12. R. Reede (5) J. T. Sound ADA ROSS 1 19 M Oods 4-7-12. Delte Grane 11.4 The Profest 5-1 Roman Real Statebolin 3-1 for Sharing, 8-1 Garden 10-4 11-4 Live Project, 5-1 Roman Rivel, Statistician, 7-1 Cer Station, 8-1 George, 10-4 Beld Lance, 12-1 others.

3.25 BARN OWL MADDEN STAKES (£3,339: 1m) (9) 13,359; 1(1) (9)
1 000- BE SATISRED 58 8 L Moore 49-0
2 - 035 GERUINE JOHN 19 J Partes 49-0
3 - 035 GERUINE JOHN 19 J Partes 49-0
3 - 036 HAUTE CURSINE 17 (8) R Wilsters 49-0
3 - 0 SESWEZTOME SON J Parter 49-0
5 - 0 CAMPHAR 275 R Finner 49-9
5 - 0 CAMPHAR 275 R Finner 49-9
5 - 1 SED- LOVELY MICROSHIPS 145 D Murray Sozill 49-9
5 - 8 SOLMRE MILE MISS 37 P Harring 49-9
9 08-8 SOLMRE MILE MISS 37 P Harring 49-9
9 08-8 SOLMRE MILE MISS 37 P Harring 49-9
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9 08-8 SOLMRE MISS 49-9
9 08-8 SOLMRE MISS 49-9
9 0 2-1 Resh 6th, S-1 Misky Bay, 5-1 Garuine John, 7-1 Lavely Marring, 8-1 others

3.55 SPARIROWHAWK HANDICAP (65,053: 60 (9) 1 00-7 PRINCELY SOURD 11 (CD.S) M but +0-10. G France (D) 1 2 310- STAND TAIL 170 (CD.S) Ledy Hernes 5-9-7... D McClarows 8 5-10. BLUE RIVER 14 (SC.SE.F.S) R Ingram 4-8-6. S Webbrowth 4 4-812 BOBD MASIC 11 (CD.F.S) L Montague Hat 5-9-5. D Holland 7 5-20- SCISSIAN RODGE 11 (CD.F.S) L Bridger 5-4-0. R Matlen (S) 1 4-812 AFFILLD RSD 11 (CD.F.S.S) Bridger 5-4-0. R Matlen (S) 1 7 0102 SOURIE CORREL 9 (F.S.) D Ingram 5-8-8. A Culture 8 1500 KRYSTAL MAIL 11 (CD.F.S.) J Culture 4-8-6. J Culture 9 1266 LDRD STV 2 (CD.F.G.S) A Bailey 6-9-0. S Sanctes 5 7-4 Procesty Sound, 5-1 Stand Dall, 6-1 Squire Charle, Robo Magis, 6-1 others.

4.30 OSPREY HANDICAP (52,843; 2m) (9) | OSPREY HANDRGAP\* (£2,845; 271) {9}
| -111 | HATTARER 9 (£0,5) | Miss 8 Sanders 5-10-3... \$ Sanders 5-20; -200; PERISSM 10 (£6,8) | Fearer 5-9-12... | Milkings 5-20; PERISSM 10 (£6,8) | Fearer 5-9-12... | Milkings 5-20; WOTTASHAMBLES 11 (£0,8) £ Libeau \$4-3... | Candy Monds 7-40; | Libeau \$4-3... | Candy Monds 7-40; | Libeau \$4-3... | Candy Monds 7-40; | Libeau \$4-3... | Milkings 5-20; Barbara 9-9-2... | D. Milkings 6-40; | Milking 3-1 Hetterleis S-2 Elements, 5-1 Wolfachampiles, 11-2 Patoskin, 8-1 others.

5.00 HARRIER LIMITED STAKES (\$2,451: 7() (7) 1 0-85 OSEPLY WALE 14 (CO.F.S.S) P Boom 6-9-5 ... S Whiteverts 2 2584 LANCASHRE 15GENO 7 (CD.6) S Don 4-9-5 ... A Doly (S) 1 2-710 SYMTP MAP 27 (CD.C.D.F.F.); A Power 7-9-6 ... In Windows 6 4482 LE SYOMT 8 (B.D.6) D Michols 4-9-4 .... Ioon Wende (7) 5 2-10 STEP ON OFFRAS 36 (CD.F.G.) M F-Godiny 4-9-5 D DOMINION STEP 5 30-1 SHEET WILHELMIN 11 (C.D.S) Lord Handingson 2-1 Bereil Wilhelmen. 3-1 La Scott. 4-1 Bep On Dages, 5-1 Lancapiera Legand,

Premier division: Dirty v. Home: Firm (7.30).

G. BERT LEAGLE Of WALES: Any worth James and James Theory v. Combons, James Then Town v. Benry, Contain's Quey v. Briton Firm (7.30). Briton Firm (7.30). Convey v. Cambridon, James Then, Convey v. Cambridon, Johnson Standard, Convey v. Cambridon, 200, Briton sile v. Caesses, Hollywell v. Compare. Beautiful Contains the C

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

West Ham ... 25 5 7 13 20 33 Southampson 23 5 5 13 32 41 † Middlesbro. 24 5 7 12 30 44 † Addlesbrough deducted three point Fint division
(10) Barnsley v Woverhampton
(11) Charstey v Woverhampton
(12) Crystal Palace v Trammere
(13) \* Huddersfield v Botton
(14) powich v Odord United
(15) Manchester City v Swindon
(16) Othern v Bradlord
(17) Reading v Southend
(18) Sheffield United v Griffreiby
(19) Stoke v Queens Park Flangers
(20) West Bromwich v Portsmouth
P W D J. F A Pts
Botton 33 18 11 4 89 44 65
Barnsley 31 15 10 6 53 37 55

FA Carling Premiership

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 uniess stated \* denotes all-acket Pools coupen numbers in brackets

(1) Cheisea v Manchester United ...
(2) Covenby v Everion
(3) "Leicester v Derby
(4) Liverpool v Biscidium
(5) Middlesbrough v Neucestia
(8) Notingham Forest v Aston Vita
(7) Southampton v Sheffield Wed ....
(8) Sundarign

Second division.

(21) Backpool v Stockpool
(22) Benstord v Bournemouth
(23) Bristol City v Crewe
(24) Burntsy v Bristol Rovers
(25) Burny v Notts County
(26) Chesterfield v Plymouth
(27) Giffingham v Peterborough
(29) Luton v Preston
(29) Luton v Preston
(30) Strewsbury v Mighwaf
(31) Weisell v York
(32) Weisell v York
(32) Wyoombe v Westord

P W D L F A Pte
Strenferd 30 15 11 4 48 29 36
Luton 20 15 7 7 49 32 52
Crewe 30 15 2 (2 42 33 50 Second division.

DR MARTIENS LEAGUE Premier definion Athertone y Stringbourne, Burror Albien v Newport AFC Dorchester v Chekrasiont, Gravesend and Northfeel v Gloucester, Gravesend and Northfeel v Gloucester, Gravesend and Northfeel v Gloucester, Gravesend v Chekrasion, Hastings v Cambridge Chy Kingra Lynn v Merting; Nursedon v Ashford, Budbuy Th v Sigsbury, Worsasier Chy v Casaley Midland deletion: Backworth v Blouchtifep, Billiado v Softwall Boirc, Gravetham v VS Rugby, Moor Graen v Illeston, RC Warrack v Pagat R; Raddight v Routenal; Stropellad D v Hanciday Town, Stationd v Warwock V Pagat R; Ruschlich v Rochwell: Shapehed D v Hinschiery Toem, Sentond v Reunde T; Sutton Coldried Toem v Exeshem, Terroverth v Corby, Southern otherion: Cardericar V Pereinann. Creenceder Toem v Hengatt Cawardon y St. Leonardor, Erith and Betwedern v Yeas, Perein London v Denford; Fass, T v Westforville, Fortet Green v Stuckingham Toem; Margata v Bastiny, Newport (oW) v Tombridge Angels: Weston-suspendere v Wester, Weston-suspendere v Wester, Weston-suspendere v Wester, Weston-suspendere v Markey, Wester, Weston-suspendere v Wester, We rockington v Harpendan FN HARF LAGER MATIONAL LEAGUE

RUGBY LINION Pilikington Cup Quarter-line) Waspe v West Hartlepo (at Sudbury, 2 30) Second division

ICIS LEAGUE Premier division: Bishop's Startord v Yeading, Bersham Wood v Aylechan; Carabellon v Grove, Dagenham and Rechandgo v Berntey. Erikeld v Purillaet, Hender v Berntey: Erikeld v Purillaet, Hender v Duhaten Heybridge v Suttem United; Hender v Duhaten Heybridge v Suttem United; Hender v Edmann, Cardot Chy v Chestary; Stants v Harmer, Veryll v Si Rhems, Frast dhestem: Abungdon Town v Hampson, Beating-stale v Berlinamister, Carrey Island v Tosting and Mitcham; Cresham v Billarday, Caryotan v Worthing, Loyton Penant v Bognor Heys; Martice v Mitchenheed United: Middesey v Alfesthol Town, United Chestary V Harsham v Town & Berlinam v Horston Rovers; Worterbaram v Treme. Second divisions: Bersenal v Horstonen; Collier Row and Romford v Dorlong, Humperford v Chestum; Leighton Town v Town v Town v Town v Horston, Withom v Egipam; Welmen v Cheston S Peter Thian diabson: Avelay v Lewes, Cemberley v Kingbury; East Thurock, Visioney v Lewes, Cemberley v Kingbury; East Thurock v Southard v Horston v Bershon Bershon Stendens Supermarine; North Leigh v Fendrad Southard v Beschot, Worthage v Centerson

Chester 22 13 10 9 38 31

Scarborough 33 12 12 9 46 17

Normampson 32 13 8 11 51 15

Cardif 21 14 E 13 40 40

Mensfield 33 11 12 9 37 33

Lincoln 23 12 9 12 46 52

Lincoln 23 12 9 12 46 52

Lincoln 23 12 9 12 46 52

Lincoln 32 10 13 9 30 33

Totquay 22 12 8 14 33 35

Leyton Orient 34 10 11 13 11 33

Scunthorpe 11 11 5 15 43 49

Rochdole 22 8 14 10 35 39

Henteloud 33 10 7 16 37 18

Samet 37 8 12 10 30 31

Henteloud 34 9 8 17 36 49

Darington 34 9 8 17 36 49

Darington 32 8 8 17 29 46

Dorcester 32 8 8 18 34 55

Dorcester 32 8 8 18 34 55

Dorcester 32 8 8 18 34 55 Ferford Shortwood v Bruckley, Wartinge v Carterion
BUSS FISH CLIP, Stath rotines Chamin U v Loughgell (at Loughgell 2:15); Chresders v Portadown Dundels v Coagh (2:15); Gerswon v Gentoren Lunawardy v Bargor (at Bangor); Omech Portadown v Colorane ist Colorane), RUC v Cetoride (at Marcas Ferrir Elect Street), Lougher Pearste division U v Southern Mannor, Concord Rangors v Bron Menor, Brentwood v Sast-bridgesorth, East Harn v Saffion Widdon, Great Walkering v Ford Omiser, Black and V Burtham Rempters, Stersted v Hulbridge Sports

† Brighton deducted mic points \* not including last right's match \*not measuring last right's malch

Valumatic Continuances

(--) Attractions y Telland

(--) Betth y Meaclestfield

(--) Bromsgrove y Working

(--) Geaschead y Rushden & Diamonds

(--) Hattax y Famborough

(--) Hedrestond y Morecambe

(--) Kesterngy v Kidderminister

(--) Northwich y Welfing

(--) Southport y Dover

(--) Stalybridge y Stevenage

Bell's Scottish Lasgue Bell's Scottish League Premier division (40) Durdermine v Aberdien (41) Hearts v Raith (42) Klimemock v Dundee Utd (43) Motherwell v Celtic

Fired chatalings Second division 

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE,
Premier develore Amold v Melby MW;
Asthold v Poutetrac Cole Bragg Town v
Asthold v Poutetrac Cole Bragg Town v
Ammittory Welters; Glosshoughton Weltere v
Inackor Hellem v Develoy v Helled Meln v
Caselt Abbon, Lucreschy v Sterifiekt; Policy
entry v Northern Town Soby v Beiger Toen
FEDERATION SEEWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First chalson: Blangham v Durston
Federation, Crook v Murich, Essengion v
Soehem Red Sar, Morpeth v Conster-leStreet, Shaldon v Tow Law, South Shields v
Consett Whichtam v Durhern, Weel Auddland
v Streaton. V SINCEON SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE (110 V SINCHON

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE (110

unless stated). First division: Arcanal v

Toberham, Glingham v Waterd (10 A5)
Leyton Orioni v Contordge Utd. Norwich v
Chelsed: Portsmouth v Igentich, West Ham v
Futsen. Sectand division. Brestlera v Cystel

Palacia, Bristol Clay Brighton, Bristol Houses v

Roumemouth, Colchesie Utd v Wiscomber

Southampton v Wimbladon, Totlenham v

Ostera Stat.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier divisions

Chothelians v Boentwoods

SOUTHERN ANATIEN LEAGUE: First di
visions Polytechnic v Old Estimanistens, South

Santo Consolina V Carthelian (10 Actions v Cart

Service Polytechnic v Old Estimanistens, South

Bank v Crach End Vergenze.

SOUTHERN CLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Santor

one: Perificie of Fisic Brid A, Stitary S. C. v Ab
anan, Southgate County v Old Fischielens, Li
vision v Netterporugh, Wilson v Wandersonth B

HOCKEY

HOCKEY

والمحارب والمستعلق والمناطق والمستعلق والمتلاز والمتارين

arisati, Soutregare (DUMY of Procretains, Uyasses y Northshorough, Witan v Wondeworth B

HOCKEY

MEN'S MATRIANAL LEAGUE: Premier ofvision: Cannock v Barlord Tigera (at Mome Ground, 1 0), East Grinstead v Guidelord (at St.

142, 1-30). Hearan v Cantribury jat Heward College, 2:30), Cital Loughtoniers v Teddangton (at Chaperd, 1-30); Fissading v Subtion of a Soroning Lano, 2:0), Southquie v Hounalow (at Broomfaid Sorond, 2:3), Prist division: Broom-lay v Hull fat Phory Losure Carrine, 1:2:0. BrooMsade v Bourmouth 1:30, Crosty, v Beelston (at Chaperd 12:0), Doncesser v Indian Grinisham for Broom Losure Carrine, 1:2:0. Brooksade v Bournouth, 1:30, Crosty, v Beelston (at Chaperd 12:30), Doncesser v Indian Grinisham for Broom Longuesco Motoria (1:33) Gloucester City, v Octord Hawle, (at Plock Court, 1:30), Harleston (pageous) Britania (1:2:30) Gloucester City, v Octord Hawle, (at Plock Court, 1:30), Harleston (pageous) Motoria (1:30) Gloucester City, v Octord Hawle, (at Plock Court, 1:30), Harleston (hospies, v Octord Hawle, Indian v Sheffield (at Pentiath County HS, 1:0), NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE, Premier Longuar Anthord v Wolungham, Bechanthern V Oct Whitegleans, Farelesser v Beacher Hampshine (Chachester, Farelmond v Gore Cour, Junioridae Winchester, Erichmond v Gore Cour, Junioridae Winchester, Erichmond v Gore Cour, Junioridae Winchester, Erichmond v Gore Cour, Junioridae Winchester, Farelmond v Cheeresteck, Epsom v Camberley, London University v Bertes; Old Mid-Mingham, Beacher washed Courtmon v Hembury, Harden Russians Beacher v Headington, Mariney v Poterrick, Middleson v Hembury, Hayever & Reschole, Lions v Headington, Mariney v Germade Cross, Mill Hill v Chy of Colord, Million Keynes v Brachest, Outiff v Stanes, PriC Chiswick v American; Courtmon v Hembury, Hayborne, Coverby, Viewson, Million Roynes v Brachest, Viewson, Million R

Richings Perk v Burrbury, Weat Hernpoleed v
Normal
DTZ DESEPHAN THORPE LEAGUE Premier divelors Bloowier v Herborns, Coverayand North Warnedshire v Hernpon-in-Anders
Kholae v Bloosomeled, Loughbornough Stutierm, v Drum and Winal Warneskohler, North
North Very LEAGUE Pers et velocit Berr
Previoting v Norton, Formby v Shoffeeld
Berkers, Hernogate v Timportey, Neston v
Boutsport, Springfields v Cheeter; Sealand v
Ranganive

Sports

Sports

Sports

Serior Statistics Leadile Freedom of Valencine Seriorgolds y Harwell, Britistown v Serigen St Marys, Brook House V Cryden, Harrydom Son v Heartfeld, Rushy Marror v Woodhard, St Margaretshury y Harrydom Marror v Woodhard, St Margaretshury y Harrydom, Jewsch Exertifier Crothmes I Exercise Seriorgon Control of Margaretshury y Harrydom, Jewsch Exertifier Crothmes I Exercise V Experiment of Wilderson v Sudbury, Woodhards Harrydom, Harrydom, Jewsch Marton v Sudbury, Woodhards V Harrydom, Harrydom v Loudent, Woodhards V Lower V Lought Vow v Loweston, Wrochamurs V Reading on v Loweston, Wrochamurs V Andover; Cowes Sports v Eastleigh Downton v Chaden Aerothardnes v Bereiton Heath, Bournamand v Lytter, Sports v Eastleigh Downton v Treatrism Town: East Cowes v Gosport, Portsmand v Toton, Whichardow v Sociation Cower Sports, Valencia V Gosport, Portsmand v Toton, Whichardow V Sociation, Linkleff Sissistic Confirt Leadile. Fine division, Halabers v Wilde Horsham Wild Osh v Langney Sports; Oslowood v Southersk, Pagham v Eastbourne Town Ringmer v Whiteland, Saldean v Sebey, Snoreham v Anunde, Three Bridges v Portifield Wildsham Sectionation Town Ringmer v Whiteland, Saldean v Sebey, Snoreham v Anunde, Three Bridges v Portifield Wildsham Corporation, Georgenia Corporation, Georgenia P Anunder, Three Bridges v Portifield Wildsham Wildsham Woodham v Hythe Leadile, Promes division; Borschambur V Woodham, Newport Pagnell v S and I, Corby, Potton v Casardow, Maries B Backstone v Woodham, Newport Pagnell v S and I, Corby, Potton V Sandord Michael Shall v Chaestean, Wildsham Landon, Halabert v Woodham, Newport Pagnell v S and I, Corby, Potton V Sandord V Balston Community School, Household, Household, Household, Household, Household, William Rouden, V Household, Household, Promes Statiston V Bendelling Well v Kengelling, Casardown V Woodham, Newport Pagnell v S and I, Corby, Potton V Woodham, William Rouden, Julie William Rouden, Julie Statiston V Kanner V Woodham, Newport Pagnell V Sandord V Woodham, Newport parasas, Herrogale v Importey, respon v Boutingort, Springleida v Chienter, Sanitaria v Rarrigarina.

ADMARS EAST LEASUE: Premite division A: Bisingris Sontrold v Peterborough Town: Cambridge City v Iprovidir. Cambridge V Cheinter V Bedford Town: Romand v Israelia V Catalana V Bedford Town: Romand Life (11.30); Ipswich v Hightown (12.0); Canterbury v Cheinsterd V Bedford (2.0); Canterbury v Cheinsterd (12.0). Dison v Bredont (2.0); Wimbiedon v Bedford (2.0). Coughtorieus v West Williamy (12.0), St Alberts v Sherwood (12.0).

TOMORROW

FA Carting Premiership Arsenal v Wimbledon (4,0) Nationwide League First division Birmingham v Port Valu (2 10) Ball's Scottial Lagran Premier division Rengers v Hiberrian (3 0) ... .....

FA CARLESTRO VASE Som voling: Guedomugh Town v Tauren (2.0). FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE Premiter diversit: Broy v Dundals (A.0); Coff-v Sago (2.0); St. Passicks Adh v Shannock (2.30); UCD v First Harps (3.16) FA WOMEN'S PREMIER! LEAGUE: National delaient: Domosaler v Southerspion (at Amsthorps Wellers Ground, 2.0); Bueston v Everton (at New Manor Ground, 2.0); Millard v Arsenal lat Fisher PC, 2.0); Wentoley v Croydon (at Vale Figm, Wembley, 2.0).

Hariequins v Saracena (3.0) ... . Courage Clubs Chempionship First division

Treorchy v Bridgend (2.15) ... .... Anglo-Welsh competition Group D Bonymeen v Rotherham (2.30) ...

RUGBY LEAGUE Kick-off 3.0 unless stated Silk Out Challenge Cup Fifth Journal Carlisle v Feetherstone (2 0) ...... Halitax v Keighley Leeds v Dewabury ...... Saltord v Paris Sant-Germain ..... Santor o Peris Santi-German.
St Helens V Hull
Walesteid v Citcharr (3.30)
Warrington v Sheffeld
98.K CUT PLATE: Second round: Hursint v
Workington (3.30); Lancastris Lynx v Hull
Kingston Rovers: Leigh v Whiselawer.
CUJB MATCH: York v Concesser

HOCKEY HA, CUP. Pitth round: Beeston v Reading (at Highlields, Notingham, 20), Cannock v Stourport (at Morns Ground, 20), Chemical v Cantock v Tedelington (at Cresser, 130); Levere v Tedelington (at Cresser, 130); Levere v Guiddong (a Southboun Culo, 130); Severe v Guiddong of Southboun Culo, 130); Si States v Hempelead and Mestimetter (at Carlos v Hempelead and Mestimetter (at Carlos Park, 130), Surbian v Southgale (at Sugden Road, 20).

WOMEN'S COUNTY CHAMPKINGHIP WOMEN'S COUNTY COMPONENTS, 22 or Mo: Cornered to Sodnin, 12.30); Gloucestreher v Donat (at Doar Close School, 10); Hereford v Devon (Hereford LC, 2.0); WOMEN'S WELSH LEAGUE: Coleyn Bay v Penarti; Newscom v Hewerbordwest, Cerditi

OTHER SPORT ATHLETICS: MAF RICON GISDOS SOUS TONIS (IN Bernerghard)
BADMINTON: Primate Provident grand older touresment jat Microfiold)

RUGBY UNION Kick-off 2.30 unless stated Pilkington Cup Diumtor-linate Newcaste v Leicester (3 0) Northampton v Sale (2 15) ..... Walkefield v Gloucester Courage Clubs Champi First division Brastol v *Bath (3 0)* ... Ornell v London Insh (3.0) Second devision Bedford v Blackheath (3.0) ... Moseley v Waterloo (3.0) Rotherham v Richmond (2.15)

Third division
Calion v Otley (3.0)
Pylide v Liverpool St Hetens
Leeds v Harrogate (3.0)
London Weish v Exister
Lydney v Wharfedale (3.0)
Micrisy v Reading (3.0)
Micrisy v Reading (3.0)
Reduct v Rosslyn Park
Walsall v Havart

Teaumin Jahrston Mostrin Act FOURTH DIVISION NORTH's Aspains vities ford: Manchester v Lictifield. Numerion: Sendel, Shetheld v Winnington Park, Stoke-on-Trent v Presion (Bassahoppers, Stoutharde v Nendel, Worcester v BerninghernS FOURTH DIVISION SOUTH: Acker on-super-Mare: Camberley v Chell

Third division

NORTH: Past divisions Maccessield • Wigton Michaes Hall Ionians
LONDOM AND SOUTH EART: Past divisions
Basingstoke • Mannibedom, Sudboy • Old Collectors, Stames • Old Mid-Whitipitians
MIDLANDS: Flest divisions: Loarnington • Martin, Marsheld • Maggrave, Scurthlorpe • Berlies - Bette; Whatchurch • Stationd:
SOUTH AND SOUTH WEST: First divisions;
Maddenhead • Camborre, Stood • St. Nec.
CIS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Cuerterfinate: Northumberland • Loncast-let of
Tyreddail)
RFU RITERMEDIATE CUP- Quarter-finals;
Brundser • Cambridge, Middlesbrough • RFU INTERMEDIATE CONTROLS Middle-brough v Denaster v Cambridge, Middle-brough v Northern, Sudbury v Broadstreet, Thanet Manuscript v Broadstreet, Thanet Manuscript v Bringham (3 to and Nantsect v Billingham (3 to South Cleve and Nanisect v Blingham (3.0) Huddersfield YMCA v Southoot South Harpendon v Folkestone (2.0) Paintainck v

Anglo-Weish competition Group B Group D London Scottish v Ystradovnies (3.0)

Welsh League From division Caerphilly v Newbridge Dunvant v Newbridge

Second division Aberavon v Maesteg THRO DIVISION: Kening Hill v Rumney, Llen-heran v Tenby United; Narberit v Bulin Wells; Tondu v Mentiny, Tredegar v Mountain Ash Tennents Premiership First division Currie v Stirling County (3 0) Jed-Forest v Hawick (3 0) Metrose v Watsonlane (3 0)

Second division Biggar v Edinburgh Academicals (3.0) West of Scotland v Glasgow HK (3.0) THERD DIVISION: Kirkceldy v filmernool. (3 (t), Peeblos, v Mussolburgh (3 0): Eofurk v Stewart's Melytie FP (3 0) Stewart's Metwer PF (3 to Stewart's Metwer PF (3 to June 1970). Hitheat/Jordantill v Heddington (3 to): Langholm v Glernothes (3 to) Incurance Corporation League First division

Ballymana v St Mary's College Blackrock Coffee v Old Crescent Gerryowen v Cork Constaution Old Belvedere v Instantans Old Desiveder v Instorians
Cold Westey v Shannon
Teranure College v Dungaman
Young Murster v Lansdowna
SSCOMD DIVISIONE Charlet v Surme, 01,5<sup>22</sup>
v Deny, Dolptin v Hebbett Greystones v
UCC, Malane v Bective Rangen, Mchai

RUGBY LEAGUE Slik Cut Chellenge Cup Fifth round London v Bradford (3,05)

MATICAMAL CONFESSACE LEAGUE: Pre-mier division: Leich Minars v Egremont (2 30) First division: Addom v Modonem (2 30) Walney Campal v Benow Island (2 30) OTHER SPORT

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S FOUR RACE MEETINGS

Haydock Park Going: pood to soit (good after 3 00) 2.00 (2m hote) 1, The Proms (C Llewellyn, 7-2); 2, Sily Money (6-1); 3, Phar Scho (8-1); Jervauk 15-8 lav. 8 ran. W., 6t. N Twiston-Davies. Tota: £3.60; £1.10, £1.70, £2.00 DF: £11.60. CSF: £29.57 Tricast. £194.26. £194.26. 2.30 (3m oh) 1. General Wolfs (R Dur-woody, 7-2); 2. McGregor The Third (4-1); 3. Destin D'Estrues (11-4 tay), 7 an. Nk, 18. T Foster, Tota: £4.00; £2.30, £1.30 DF: £3.40, CSF £16.69.

4.30 (3m ch) 1. Lord Relic (Mr R Ford, 9-4 tax); 2. Country Tarrogen (7-2); 3. Glen Cel. (33-1). 11 ran. 6l, 13l. S Brookshaw Tole:

Pacapot: £35,455.00.

Kemoton Park Going: good Samp; goto 2.10 (2m St hole) 1, Reyeltino (A Kondrat, 5-2); 2. Award (6-4 fav); 3, Ready Money Creek (7-2) 12 ran %1, 7, F Ocumen (F1) Tote: 53.40; 51.70, 51.30, 51.40 DF: 64.10, Tno: 53.50 CSF: £6.44. 100 CST 120 44. 1 Tozard, 9-21, 2, Mediane (150-1); 3, Prons Whood (11-1), Teaplariler 2-5 fax, 5 fax, 131, 141 C Tozard, 100 E 23-0, CST 1255.55 284.00, CSF 2250.59 3.10 (3m ch) 1, Beruse Not To (J Osborne, 13-2); 2, Oben (8-1); 3, Aerdwoli (9-2). Plessure Shertel 6-4 lav 6 ran, 7l, 4l, O Sherwood Tota 55.40; 52.80, £1.90 DF 28 10 CSF £36 15. 28 10 CSF 536 15. 3,40 (2m hcle) 1, Wade Road (J Culloty, 15-8), 2, Kafash (T1-10 tay), 3, Tree Creeper (12-1) 10 ran 11,41 Miss H knight. Totar 52 49, 01.10, 51.40, 51.60 DF-52 20 Trio: 54.40, GSF: 53.90. Negrobon, (mer 27 74.

A40 (2m Si Inde) I, Lassona Lass (1 Osbome, 100-30); 2, High Grade (16-1); 3, Boyal Piper (10-1), Nexé O Three 5-2 sav (8 man NP: Mari-Lou-And. 1%, 4, Lady Herrise Tote 53 40; 51 80, 52 10, 51 60.

Dr. 223 00 The 588-60, CSF: 53.80.

Throate 5279 83. Placepot: 174.30. Quadpot: £17.80,

Southwell Going: good Going: good
2.20 (2m crt) 1. Weehaby (G Tormsy, 6-1);
2. Record Lover (16-1), 3. Goodon (20-1)
Flarming Meracle, Snowy Petrels: 7-2 g-tavs,
10 ran, 241, 31. M Baraclough, 10 tols: 63-40;
51-20, 64-50, 52-70 DF: 588.30, Trio;
5130.00 (part won, Pool of £40-29 carried
forward to 4-40 Kernotton today) CSF:
574-49 Tricast: £1,514-81
2.50 (3m 110yd ch) 1, As Du Trefte (A P
McCoy, 1-2 tav), 2, Pearl's Choice (12-1); 3,
Pearl Epec (18-1) 9 ran 8, dist, M Pipe.
Tote: £1-40, £1-30, £1-80, £2-20, DF: £6.00
Trio £1-600 CSF £6.90 S.20 (3m 110yo ch) 1, Father Sky (J A McCarthy, 100-30); 2, Young Miner (20-1); 3, Childhey Chocolate (6-1) Mugore Beech 5-2 lav 6 ran. St, 1%L O Sherwood. Titale 4.20 (2m hdte) 1, Otto E Mezzo (V Smith, 9-1); 2, Prikerton's Pal (13-8); 3, Carliste Bandton's (5-5 lay) 8 ran, NF: Vanbu, Ping Ol Vision 244, 131 M Polylese Tote £10.50; c1 40, c1 10, £1.20 DF £10 70, Tno. £4 30 CSF: £21 61

Wolverhampton

Placepot £174.40.

(3-1 p-lav) 11 mm 1 lkt, Si E Alston Toke 64 00; 51.90, 63.10, 61.70 DF 612.00 Tho 628 40, CBF 619.31 Tricast: 655.65 3.25 (1m 4) 1, in The Money (D Grittins, 6-1), 2, Ambideatrous (4-1); 3, Classic Account (25-1), Northern Motion 2-1 fav 11 ran, NR Aziec Piers 41, 1% R Hollinshead Tore 63 (0; 22 70, £1 80, 25 00. DF 52,80 Tilo. £89 20. CSF-£23.36 Tricast: £565 78 25.55 (7) 1. Mr Nevermind (5 Whitecorn, 11-2), 2, Leigh Croser (10-1), 3. Devesto (4-1), etc., Ellie Hope 4-1 (1-4), 4. Devesto (4-1), etc., 4. Ellie Hope 4-1 (1-4), 4. Devesto (4-1), 4. G. Moner Teier 28, 70, 52, 20, C3 SO 22, 50 DF 529, 30 Tree 532, 20, C5F 129, 191 Tricest 520, 154 2201 54 4.25 (71) 1. Diamond Byre (R Lepper, 11-4) 2. Julia 2 Relative (5-11, 3, Fast Spin (6-4 tax) 9 ran 241 3-1, J Eye Tote C4-20; C1-50, £2-10, £170, DF £16-10 The £45,90 CSF £19-55 4.55 (6) 1, Needle Metch (W Ryan, 25-1), 2, Sr Tasker (8-1) 3, Bold Fromber (7-4 ker) 13 ran, 1%1, fid. J. J. O'Neil. Tote, £56 00, 18 10, £250, £180. DF £57 90. The £285 00 (part wor. Pool of £32) 15 camed forward to 4.40 Kempton rodwy. CSF £210.55. These £450 W.

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RUGBY UNION

# Northern lights have perfect chance to shine

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE Pilkington Cup has this season mirrored the FA Cup in that so many fancied teams have already left the scene. There is no Bath, no Wasps. no wealthy Richmond for the quarter-finalists to worry about this weekend; rather. the real possibility of northern clubs occupying two, or even three, of the places in the semi-final draw on Monday.

That situation has not occurred for 20 years. In 1977 Waterloo and Gosforth reached the knockout competition's penultimate stage, Fylde failing to join them. A year earlier Gosforth, Sale and Wakefield made the last four and, coincidentally, all three are there again, even if traditionalists scoff at the thought that the Newcastle of today bears much relationship to the Gosforth of yesteryear.

Be that as it may, Newcastle have probably the best opportunity of carrying the northern banner a stage further, even though it is Leicester whom they must overcome. They are at home, they have 12 internationals from four countries available and they play a Leicester side weakened by the loss, through injury, of Eric Miller, Dean Richards and

Stuart Potter. Against that, as Dean Ryan, the Newcastle captain, rightly observes, is the pace and tempo at which Leicester are accustomed to playing the game in the first division of the Courage Clubs

A fortnight ago Leicester carried the light to Bath, the cup holders, to such good effect that they scored five tries at the Recreation Ground. Now they must accommodate Craig Joiner, more accustomed to the wing, at centre and Will Johnson at No 8, where he must match himself against the aggressive Ryan. The younger Johnson's control



## Wakefield keen to step forward

David Hands on the upwardly-mobile

aspirations of one of Yorkshire's finest

YORKSHIRE is not short of upwardly-mobile rugby clubs. With the arrival of professionalism, the ambition burns among the likes of Leeds. Moriey and Harrogate in the third division of the Courage Clubs Championship, and In the second division, where Rotherham and Wakefield sit

cheek by jowl. Rotherham have arrived only recently at this status; Wakefield, by contrast, seem to have been trying to escape it for years, yet seem doomed to failure once more this season with the moneyed clubs occupying both the promotion and the play-off spots.

There is, of course, still the cup. Wakefield stand on the threshold of repeating their feat of 1976, when they reached the semi-finals of the old John Player Cup. Today, ege Grove in a Pilkington Cup quarter-final and, were they to win, it would be the most timely of victories.

Early next week, Wakefield plan to announce the first stage of a development essential if they are to fight their way into the English game's upper echelon. They have the opportunity to move to a new ground, away from the restricting, and shared, confines of College Grove with its 4.000 capacity, where they can grow and attract sponsorship.

That Wakefield have always been so competitive is remarkable, given their small catchment area of 65,000 and the competition for players. would be prepared to invest in us if we were on our own," Robin Foster, their vice-chair

When the Rugby Football Union's (RFU) moratorium on professionalism ended last May, Wakefield handed out contracts to players. "We rushed into signing our squad because we were in danger of losing a number to our wealthier brethren." Foster said. Like many others, they believed that revenue would become available from television and sponsorship deals - but, with the long-running dispute between the RFU and English Professional Rugby

Union Chubs, it did not. Wakefield's bacon was saved by the private investment of five former players, and though they lost three promising forwards to Leeds, they were able to attract three quality players from Orrell. We haven't worked our tails off for the last 20 years just to slide backwards," Foster said. The desire to remain at the top is still there, to take one step further if we can, and it would be magic if, next week, we could publish our hopes for the future on the back of a

Wakefield's success this season has come through their back division, where the loyalty of Dave Scully and Mike Jackson at half back has served them well. Five of their players have appeared in the successful North under-2i team this season and one, Dean Hardcastle, was an England replacement in the under-21 international against Scotland last month.

That's encouraging for us but we do need a bit of timber up front," Foster admitted. Yet his club will relish yet another high-profile cup game, thus far they have beaten Waterloo and Moseley, fellow seconddivision clubs, so Gloucester gives added focus.

The cup means a great deal to us because of our previous exploits, we have always enjoyed it," Foster said. Two years ago they beat Gloucester 19-9; a year ago Bath, Sleightholme and all, were 45 seconds away from an ignominious defeat: there are no guarantees for visitors to

of the ball will be significant in helping Austin Healey and Joel Stransky to run the match from half back.

If the wind continues to shriek across Kingston Park. control will be at a premium and there are few willer heads in the British game than Rob Andrew and Stransky, the opposing stand-off halves, but that is only one of a series of individual confrontations.

Sale, buoved by their away league victory over Harieturn to Northampton, where they lost 30-12 in the league in October. Their nemesis that day was Paul Grayson, who kicked 20 points, and now Grayson is rejoined by Matt Dawson after an absence of nearly II weeks, caused by medial ligament damage to the left knee.

Dawson, the England scrum half last season, has enjoyed a distinct upturn in his fortunes this week with his inclusion in the preliminary British Isles squad for the tour to South Africa this summer though his match fitness will be tested to the full by Dewi Morris.

"I can't do anything about the past three months," Dawson. 24, said. "I know I've missed the five nations', but getting the news about the Lions was good for me. If I carry on playing well. I should

"If my knee comes through against Dewi. I'll be set up for the rest of the season. It'll be good to come back against someone of that sort of quality you know where you stand. It won't be an easy ride."

The return of Simon Mannix at stand-off will encourage Sale, whose only doubt is whether Dylan O'Grady will be fit to play on the open side. Andy Morris stands by to cover.

Phil Greening has recovered from a knee injury in time to play for Gloucester, whose status in the first division makes them favourites against Wakefield. Greening the England replacement hooker, is the only change from the XV beaten by Bristo in the league on Tuesday, a result that should ensure maximum concentration against Wakefield, though Richard Hill, the director of rugby at Kingsholm, admits that the cup has taken second place to

league survival. There will be 17 international players padding through the mud of the Stoop Memori-Ground tomorrow when Harlequins play Saracens, ten of whom will arrive with Saracens. So often the boot has been on the other foot, but, in the past five weeks. Saracens have beaten Harlequins in the league and Wasps in the cup. Admittedly, both games were at Enfield, and winning away from home has not yet become a habit for Saracens. but they will welcome back Kyran Bracken at scrum half after a fortnight spent recover-

ing from a deep haematoma. If Pontypridd are to sustain their defence of the Swalec Cup, they must win the sevtoday, where they have not won for 25 years. They must do so, however, without Dale McIntosh, the back-row forward capped by Wales in December, but now suffering from a rib injury. Neil Jenkins reverts to stand-off, his more accustomed position, for Pontypridd, to oppose Arwel Thomas, his national team colleague, whose form has forced Jenkins to play at full back for Wales.

# Cardiff keep champagne on ice

Andrew Longmore

finds ice hockey's

champions short of a suitable stage

says something for the confidence of Cardiff Devils and the savvy of their marketing staff that, within minutes of winning the inaugural ice hockey Superleague title, T-shirts cel-ebrating the fact were on sale in the Wales national ice rink For the Devils, a 6-4 victory over Manchester Storm, which brought them the championship with a game to spare, was a welcome return to winning ways. This was the club's fourth champion-

bred on success. It was just a shame nobody brought the trophy along. For all the inevitable rendering of We Are The Champions and the wild scenes of celebration, the players had to make do bottles of Bud rather than supping champagne from a silver cup — an apt comment

ship, but their first for two

years. The wait was begin-ning to lay heavy on a club

born only ten years ago but

#### SUPERLEAGUE

on the first year of the Superleague, which has seen plenty of fizz, and a fair amount of froth. The presentation of the trophy will take place tonight before the Dev-

That the fall guys for the should be Manchester Storm was appropriate — and not just because their coach, John Lawless, laid the foundations for the Devils' success in the early days. Lawless says ice hockey is "facility led". The Storm have the facility, in the 17.000-capacity Nynex Arena, the team, not the facility.

As the players and the head coach, Paul Heavey, moved steadily into a lager-induced haze during a long night of celebration in Gretzky's Bar. thoughts would already have been turning to the future. The club's chief executive, David Temme, and Paul Guy, whose money helped to bankroll this season's rising wage bill, were both away for the vital night.

cess and start preparations for the play-offs and, next season, another tilt in Europe. Last time, their run was haited abruptly by a tenun from Minsk in the semifinals of the Europa Cup. This time, Heavey feels, his

Kip Noble leaps into Heavey's arms as Cardiff celebrate their championship

"Our long-term goal is to think we're capable of doing that," he said. "This is a tough league. We used to have to raise our game to the highest level for maybe eight to ten games a season, now it's every week. We're looking at a standard comparable with the minor leagues in the US and players who don't make it in the National Hockey League are starting to look to Britain as an alternative." The rougher, tougher type made Cardiff less than popular on occasions this season and has highlighted the inadcode. Even Heavey, a defend er of players in the mould of his fellow Scot, Alex Ferguson, admits that the adminis trative side of the Supereague has suffered hom "a Certainly, raised standards on the ice have not been matched off it.

of player on their books has

The Devils are deserved champions, though, and you only had to watch Shannon Hope, Cardiff's veteran defenceman, racing children round the rink and signing autographs until his hand ached in the aftermath of victory to sense how desperately this sport wants to

#### Rodal can judge form for run at Coe's time

ATHLETICS

BY DAVID POWELL ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

AFTER staging a run of British honour only has been at issue, the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham opens its doors to the world tomorrow. The venue is hosting the final event on the Ricoh Tour, which carries \$210,000 (about

£[30,000) in prize money. The tour is the indoor equivalent of the "golden four" outdoor series — four of the best meetings on the circuit working together with an attractive prize structure. Yet. more than that of any single British athlete, it is the performance of Ian Stewart that matters most this weekend.

This is the first opportunity that the British Athletic Federation has had to lift off the mask of embarrassment that international meetings were not of the standard that the crowds in Great Britain have comie to expect.

Stewart, as the head of the events - department, needs a show of outstanding quality to help to convince the public that seats for the BAF's main buying. The special effects display that the BAF is planning, through music and lightng, to jazz things up, will not

in itself, be enough.

Three Olympic champion dropping out in the past week have left Stewart with only one from an individual event Gone are Charles Austin and Stefka Kostadinova, the high jump gold medal-winners from Ananta, together with Deon Hemmings, the 400-metre hurdler. In, though, is Vebjorn Rodal, whose late inclusion had Stewart buoy-

Rodal set an Olympic record of Imm 42.58sec for 800 metres when becoming Norway's first track and field champion for 40 years in Atlanta last year, prompting a revision of the presumption that Wilson Kipketer would be the one to break Sebastian Coe's longstanding world record. Either could take it this summer and, emphasise the point, Rodal will seek to lower the indoor record, held by Paul Ereng.

knoortow. Ereng's record may not be of such old cloth as Coe's, but neither is it from the nearlynew shop. Set in 1989, Ereng recorded lmin 44.84sec the year after winning the Olympic title in Seoul. Rodal has asked for a pacemaker to reach 600 metres in 7/sec lmin 43sec pace.

Pacemakers of quality are rare and, as of yesterday afternoon, Stewart has not found one who is ideal. He said yesterday: "We have got people, but finding one who can run that fast is not easy. I have got Peter Stubbs with me and he reckons he can do 78sec, but I am not so sure. ideally, we need somebody who can run 77sec evenly."

Birmingham slipped from third to fifth in the International Amateur Athletic Federation indoor evaluations last year, but Stewart said of tomorrow: "It is going to be as good as anthing we have put on indoors. The depth is tremendous. We have got Ivan Pedroso and five other [long] jumpers over eight metres this season. We have got probably the best 60 metres on the circuit this year. Big names could go out in the heats."

That event includes Ato Boldon, the Olympic 100 and 200 metres bronze medalwinner, from Trinidad, Bruny Surin, from Canada, who will be seeking his third successive 60 metres world title in Paris next month, and Jon Drummond and Dennis Mitchell, two of the fastest Americans.

Spire dy

**GOLF:** ELEMENTS PLAY TRICKS ON COMPETITORS IN PRESIDENT'S PUTTER

## Amateurs' best efforts blown awry

COLF CORRESPONDENT

FOR anyone in search of peace and tranquillity, the tee of the short 5th hole at Rye Golf Club was not the place to be on a doleful February day. Buffeted by 40mph winds, competitor after competitor in the Presi-dent's Putter found the words that came to mind were not those inscribed on the wooden seat at the back of the tee -"From the Rugby Internationals Golfing Society 1961"—but rather a modification of that famous hymn, "For those in peril on the tee".

The sides of the 5th green fall away. It has a ridge in it so that the right side is lower than the left and is set at an angle from the tee. In a south wind, the best line is well left. towards Cherbourg. Those attempting to play this hole on

Bernard Darwin's remark that "the most difficult shots in golf are the second shots to the

When they return, the dev-

elopment of a new arena will be top of their agenda. The Wales national ice rink.

is cosy and, when the mood

takes the locals, raucous. It is

sold out most weeks, but a

capacity of 2,635 will not put

food on the table for long, if

other clubs match Cardiff by

buying in a higher class of

the brightest young coaches in sport, has done his home-

work on players such as Ken.

Hodge and Marty Yewchuk,

but money talks loudest and

it will only be a matter of time

before the greater clout of the

Steelers in Sheffield and the

Storm prevails. A new 10,000-

seat facility in Cardiff Bay is

planned, but the vision is still

Devils can savour their suc-

somewhat hazy.

vey, at 35,

short holes at Rve". Though for many the green ras unwelcoming and hostile. for Nick Burke it was the place of a minor triumph. His tee-shot finished to the left of the

Results from Ryc \_\_\_\_\_ 51

green, down a bank 15 feet below the putting surface. It could scarcely have been in a worse place. From such a position, even the most eifted professional would have been pressed to keep his ball on the putting surface.

Burke chose to putt. He judged the steepness of the bank to perfection so that his ball just struggled to the top

taken down on to the green by the contours of the surface. It tolled to within eight feet of the flag. Such skill was of no

use in the end.

He was beaten 2 and 1 by Tim Hanson, who in his morning match against Peter Cooper, had watched as Cooper's ball was blown several feet on the 5th green. "As he took his putter back the ball went with it," Hanson said. "I couldn't believe my eyes. I thought I was watching something out of David Copper-

After two victories, Ted Dexter's story of the 5th went like this. "I was on the high side of the green and my first putt started well left, turned and rolled down past the hole and on and on. I hit my second putt up the hill and it got to within six inches then began to trickle again." Tony Murley, Dexter's opponent, took up the story: " was about to bend down and concede Ted's second putt when it started to move again. three than he had been in two. in the end, we halved the hole in five."

When professional golfers complain about bad weather or poorly cut greens, it is days such as yesterday and incidents such as these that come to mind. The amateurs of the Oxford and Cambridge Golfing Society help to keep it all in perspective.

Deter Lonard shrugged off the distractions of his victory

in the Australian Masters in Melbourne last weekend to lead with four others on seven under par after two rounds of the Canon Challenge in Sydney yesterday.

COLF

## Montgomerie tempted by US

BY MEL WEBB

NICK FALDO gave a broad hint yesterday that Colin Montgomerie was thinking seriously of following his example in playing an increasing amount in the United

Faldo decided to play full-time on the US PGA Tour two years ago and was rewarded with his third victory in the US Masters - his sixth Major title win -- last April.

Montgomerie, yet to win a Major, has resisted the temp-tation to play more in the US, insisting that European tournament golf is as competitive as any. This year, however, he has decided to prepare for Augusta with seven weeks competition in the United States, and will leave after

defending his Dubai Desert

Classic title next week. "I'm sure that Monty is

tinkering with coming over here." Faldo said. "He enjoys European life, but he also enjoys playing courses in good condition. If he is going to be here for seven weeks, he is going to get a really good picture of what life on the US

Tour is like." -Faldo, who will be going for his fourth Masters title in nine years, said that there were no signs that Europe's domination of the event — eight wins in the last decade - was coming to an end and added that, despite an indifferent record at Augusta, Montgomerie was capable of making the breakthrough. "Monty might be the next man to keep the European cycle going." he

The burden of expectation on Montgomerie in Europe is mirrored by the pressure being imposed in the United States on Tiger Woods. I don't think the attention that too much," Faldo said. ☐ A course record 63 from

David Frost led the way on a day of low-scoring in the second round of the Alfred Dunhill PGA at Hough an Golf Club near Johannesburg yesterday. Retief Goosen leads on 13-under 131. He has a oneshot lead over Frost, his fellow South African, and the firstround leader, Thomas Gögele, of Germany.

### SNOOKER

## Drago wins war of nerves

By PHIL YATES

TONY DRAGO, a bundle of often uncontrolled nervous energy, made his debut in the semi-finals of a world ranking tournament a winning one by edging John Higgins, the titleholder, 6-5 in an enthralling contest at the international Open in Aberdeen yesterday.

Higgins, undefeated in five previous meetings with Drago and in 17 matches during an event that he was aiming to win for a third successive year. was confidently expected to protect his record on both counts, but did not play anywhere near his best.

Breaks of 57 and 106 gave Drago, from Malta, a 2-1 lead and he recovered from a 46-0 deficit in the eighth frame with a 67 clearance to brown to move 5-3 ahead. Holding a 64-6 advantage at an advanced stage of the ninth frame, Drago had one foot and four toes in the final. Drago squandered an op-

portunity to wrap up proceedings, however, and Higgins, who rallied from 6-0 down to pip him 9-8 in the last 16 of the United Kingdom championship three months ago, refused to relinquish his grip on

Higgins made a 71 clearance to steal the frame on the black and won a fraught tenth by clipping the pink to a top pocket. At that point, given Drago's propensity to crack in such circumstances, Higgins was rightly considered an overwhelming favourite, and

The second secon

there was certainly no denying Drago's growing nervousness. Unable to sit still in his chair while Higgins was at the table, he resembled an expectant father pacing the maternity ward. Yet Drago retained his composure with a 59 break in the deciding frame to secure at least £32,000. "I knew I had guts, but not that much," Drago said. "I'm the happiest man in the world."

The elimination of Higgins afforded Stephen Hendry, the 5-2 quarter-final conqueror of Jimmy White on Thursday, the chance to further tighten his grip on top spot in the provisional world rankings. RESULTS: Quarter finals! J Higgins (Scott is A McManus (Scott) 5-3; S Hendry (Scott

### Barrett homes in on **Teddington repeat**

HOCKEY

Wycombe with a late equaliser that took a Hockey Association Cup match to penalty strokes (Sydney Friskin writes). Teddington won the shoot-out but now face another contest with the same club in the fifth round of the cup tomorrow.

However, John Barrett, the Teddington assistant coach, is certain that the pattern of the previous engagement will not be repeated on the second visit to High Wycombe. On the basis of Teddington's surge to the top of the National League.

his confidence is justified. Cannock have been cheered the news that Bob

TWO seasons ago Andy Crutchley's fractured timmh billson saved Teddington has healed but, although he from deleat against High will be on the bench for the home cup match against Stourport, he will take the field only to strike corners. Reading, the holders, and

> round, Guildford, Southgate, Teddington and Hounslow have won the trophy, while Old Loughtonians, runnersup twice, entertain Hounslow For the first time this sea son. Southgate are free from injury for the trip to Surbiton and Beeston, unbeaten in 16 first division matches, enter-

> four other clabs in the fifth

The nick of the premier division matches in the National League today is SouthCRICKET: PLAYERS RESPONDING TO MODERN GAME AND METHODS OF PREPARATION

# England dance to different tune

CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN AUCKLAND

EVEN the most curmudgeonly of observers must concede that there is a strikingly noteworthy aspect of England's recent cricket. It is not just that they are winning games, it is that the players— including those of distinctly unathletic build and gait — look strong, fit and agile.

Already, one can sense a groun of scepticism from the armchairs of the traditionalists, where fitness regimes have never been well received. Cricketers, so they maintain, should get fit by playing cricket, just as they always

This edict, however, applied to another generation, virtually another game. The cricketers of today have so many more questions asked of mind and body than did their prede-cessors. Only they, three months into a tour covering two countries, know what it is to encounter a string of limited-overs games, with their excessive demands on physical well-being, at a time when mental energy and motivation are at a premium. They are doing so now, with a second

tomorrow at Eden Park.

England have been shamefully slow to recognise the needs of the modern game. This is the first tour on which two experts have catered for the players' physical welfare, but the belated acknowledgement is having its neward — visibly, in the case of unrecognisable fielding and catching standards, and less tangibly in the improved levels of stamina to concentrate

through a taxing day.

Wayne Morton, the England physiotherapist, has been waging war on reactionary philosophies since he came into cricket 13 years ago. To acquire fitness requires toughness, preparation and attitude," he said, "and in cricket there is a constant-battle against long tradition and resistance. But I struggle far less with the players of today and more with the people who

used to play.
"When I started out in cricket, the attitudes to fitness were antiquated. We still lag behind other countries, and because I am fighting a corner it seems to me that changes are not happening fast enough. To a traditionalist, it is probably moving too fast."

It was the idea of Morton, a Yorkshireman, to spread the workload by recruiting a specialist trainer. Fitness in cricket had always been the province of the physics, but I increasingly found myself dragged in two directions and that we also needed a different input. I knew there was a role for a fitness expert — I just had to persuade the [Test and County Cricket] Board." Morton won his point and

Dean Riddle, ironically a New

Surrey jazz up Sundays .... 1

Zenlander, was recruited. Riddle had spent ten years training rugby league teams, the past seven in England, and has found little difficulty adapting his methods.

We spoke towards the end of the Christchurch Test. Riddle had just taken three of the unempioyed players for a session of swimming and "water-based running". At close of play, others would be identified for shuttle runs on the outfield. Morton grinned mischievously: "Dean gets all the abuse from them now. I'm

the good guy again.
"Cricketers are human and

unpleasant thing to do. We cannot expect to impose concepts and change things overnight but, in a few years' time, every new player will accept these routines as the norm."

Morton and Riddle have devised some training games that, to an outsider, seem irrelevant, even infantile. Yet the noisy, hyperactive rout-ines, one of them a kind of haskethall played with a ten-nis ball, all have their purpose. "It is for agility, for the reflexes, for hand-eye co-ordination and for player commu nication." Riddle said.

Equally, we may give them a game that has no special relevance other than to warm them up in a way they find interesting. Variety is the key - we constantly change the formulas to keep them think-ing and so they don't know how much they are doing. It would be hard, for instance, to get a player to do 20 40-metre sprints straight off, but play football for half an hour and he will probably do 60."

Both men speak of diet, of energy levels and of their aim

to create a national fitness database so that cricketers can constantly be assessed. But they relate to the players' own

says: There is an intensity and aggressiveness in Test cricket now and, when you come up against a very physical, powerful side like South

Africa, it can be intimidating." In this, he is getting through to the players and perhaps the mark of the fitness men's success on this tour has been the response of two unlikely candidates, Robert Croft and Philip Tufnell.

"Croft is a dumpy little Welshman," Morton said, "but he believes his fitness levels have made him stronger in his bowling, given him more presence at the crease. As for Tuffers, well, he'll never be Carl Lewis but he has reacted well." Tufnell, indeed, has been going regularly to the gym without persuasion. His fielding has benefitted enormously and the direct-hit run-out he effected in the Christchurch Test was a sweet moment for his trainers.

While Morton, an integral part of this team and its culture, sees out the tour, Riddle has returned home Already, however, he has signed a contract for the tour to West Indies next winter. which can only be good news



# Jury still out after Kray funds appeal

from Kirkby in Nottinghamshire, has appointed a new president - Reggie Kray. Now 63 and jailed for 30 years for the murder of Jack "The Hat" McVitie and being accessory to the murder of George Cornell, Kray has contributed

El,000 to Ashfield 95. He issued his first statement as president from Maidstone prison: "I am very pleased the team has honoured me in this way. I have always had a soft spot for Nottinghamshire since I spent a few years in Nottingham prison. The people are really friendly and Nottingham is my second favourite city after London."

For some reason, nor everyone is ecstatic about this appointment. Mick Kilbee, 29sistant secretary to the Not-tinghamshire FA, said: "We have written to the club asking them to explain the situation in writing. Meanwhile, we are hear from them."

Ashfield wrote to Kray after a number of others had turned down their request for money. which they want to help them find a better ground. The Prince's Trust rejected them: Kray did not.

#### Take five

The willow is covered in pussies and the song of the song thrush echoes through the land. Can the third sign of spring be far behind? No: this column's annual Wisden competition is with us once again, All you have to do is work out who the editor. Matthew Engel, has selected as the five Wisden cricketers of the year.

The Wisden award traditionally goes to the five players have illuminated the English season of the previous summer; a player can only win it once. However, there is something rum going on this year. Engel dropped one of his subtle hints: "Remember that the selection of the cricketers. and even the criteria by which he selects them, are entirely a matter of the editor's judgment." Engel may have played a wild card this year.
A copy of Wisden 1997 goes

to the five entries closest to Engel's selection: I am the sole judge of proximity. Entries meet reach me by March 10.

#### The biters bit

Bandits held up a car near Warstw. in Poland, and were iet to rob the occupants, Konstin Valgin and Gernady Remensky. But help was at hand. The two men are coaches to the biathlon teams of Russia and Belarus, and they were returning from the world championships in Slovakia.

Biathlon? Yes, the event that combines skiing and marksmanship - and the two teams were travelling behind. The highwaymen found themselves surrounded by two dozen men armed with rifles. Wisely, they surrendered.

#### Pulling together

As everyone knows, the world indoor rug-of-war championship is taking place this week the Torbay Leisure Centre. Tug-of-war is one of the most ancient of all sports; there is a wall engraving of competing tug-of-warriors in an Egyp-tian tomb, dated at 2500 BC.

#### SIMON BARNES



On Saturday

England already has two gold medals at the championships and is fancied for two more today at the event, sponsored by Taylor Woodrow. The international federa-tion is making a quirotic attempt at getting the sport back into the Olympics. It was last contested in 1920. Britain won gold, silver and bronze in the tug-of-war in the 1908 London Olympics: the gold medal-winning team from the Metropolitan Police went back to work for the afternoon.

☐ Marcos Martin, playing football for Sevilla against Tenerife last Sunday, was injured and taken off the field on a golf buggy. Alas, the driver drove rather too close to the goal — and whacked Martin's head on a post as he whizzed past. He has since recovered from both injuries.



#### **Appealing Bell**

Goalkeeper of the week is Joseph Antoine Bell of the Cameroon squads that con-tested the World Cup finals in 1990 and 1994. He has all but succeeded in getting paid for his participation in 1990.

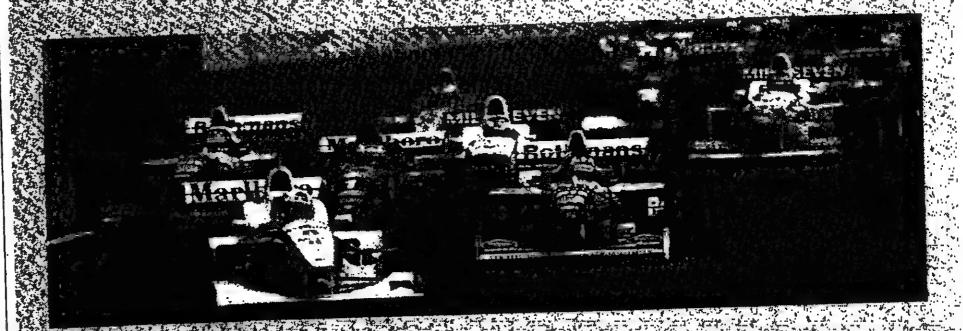
Bell took the case to Fife, who ordered the Cameroon FA to cough up the money he is owed. All the other members of the squad have long since given up the attempt at getting their money.

Bell did not actually play in 1990; he was dropped after a dispute with officials about when he was going to get paid. He played two games in 1994. but was dropped after his leading part in a threatened atrike – about payment.

I wonder if he has been paid for the 1994 World Cup yet Fifa said Cameroon would be suspended from international up. Vincent Onana, president of the Camerona "Carneroon cannot be suspended. Cameroon is credible. but to say that Bell will be paid as mon as possible is not comprehensive."

# ON MONIDAY. A GUIDI TRAFILE

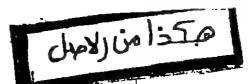




Manufacture 10 Track, see the best 20 page Grand Prix 77 guide There's a preview of the new whole the season, are full ingress took at the temps address and up and coming stars. There's also the chance oplin factory formula Land with Michael Schannacher's pocket money that's £25,000.

http://www.the-times.co.uk

CHANGING TIMES



## THE TIMES GUIDE TO THE PREMIERSHIP THIS WEEKEND

ARSENAL

How long can Arsene Wenger the manager, continue in his strange state of denial? Obstinately defending his players' excesses on the field has its own nemesis.

The fact is that Arsenal's prospects this season in league and cup have been severely damaged by the rash of suspensions. Far better educated and more sophisticated than the average manager, it is surely in his own and Arsenal's interest for Wenger to come down heavily on offenders, rather than try to excuse them.

DERBY COUNTY

Jim Smith has learnt a few tricks during his years in management, and one is to know when to put the frighteners on his players. Having gone without a league win since November. Smith took them to a haunted house in Stratford-upon-Avon. There were trapdoors everywhere, and some of the lads slept with the lights on," Gary Rowett, the

central defender, said. The result?. Four

points from two games since, and much

more spirit in the camp.

**ASTON VILLA** Thou shalt not make fun of the

physiotherapist ... as Mark Draper, the Villa midfield player, has found to his cost. Draper thought that his past jesting with Jim Walker, the Villa Park spongeman, had been forgotten until he began his rehabilitation from a hernia operation. Running, running and then more running was prescribed for the breathless Draper, prompting him to muse: "I used to wonder wity Jim never came in for a lot of hanter. Now I know."

EVERTON

With Mark Schwarzer burning them down, and Neville Southall looking to go into management, Everton are suddenly in need of a goalkeeper. And not just a goalkeeper. "We've done the hard part in weeding out the squad," Joe Royle, the manager, said, "but we want to bring in two, or maybe three, top-class players." Today they await a fitness test on Duncan Ferguson, who has a hamstring problem, and Craig Short. Marc Hottiger is out, with Michael Ball coming into the squad. PB

**BLACKBURN ROVERS** Robert Coar, the chairman

would surely prove useful to

the Government in the disinformation department. His assurances that Sven Göran Eriksson really was still coming to the club were just the latest. Ray Harford began to get edgy when Coar said he wasn't leaving, and big money was punted on Alan Shearer join-ing Newcastle when Coar said that he was going nowhere. Coar even said that Eriksson wasn't a target, two days before he was named as the new manager. DM

> LEEDS UNITED After conceding seven goals in

two games, it is back to the drawing board for George Graham, the manager, as Leeds visit Sunderland, a club with a defensive record to make Graham envious. Graham is toying with the idea of abandoning the wing back formation, and reverting to the tried and tested, "Manchester United and Blackburn have won the championship playing 442," Graham said, "and United still are, so it looks as if all the successful teams play 442."

Manchester United are probably too proud to man-mark Gianfranco Zola, which could give Cheisca a chance, and Mark Hughes will be keen to score against his old club. Roy Keane, in the United midfield, will be hard to contain on present form, but so too will Roberto di Matteo, who insists that he wants to stay in London. Where United may have the edge is in goal, where Schmeichel - as at Highbury in midweek - dominates but Chelses tend to BG:

LEICESTER CRY

Back to square one. After restoring the balance of his side by signing Robert Ullathome, a left-sided midfield player, on Monday, Martin O'Neill, the manager, could only reflect on the game's cruellies when Ullathorne broke an ankle II minutes, into his debut against Wimbledon 24 hours later. He is out for the season, and with Whitlow still missing there will be a distinctly right-footed look to the side against Derby County today. Heskey, Izzet, Lennon, and Elliott are all suspended. RH

COVENTRY CITY

Coventry versus Everton at Highfield Road this afternoon does not exactly whet the does not exactly when the appetite. Only the most committed need attend a Premiership fixture of dubious potential. Still, the return of Dion Dublin from his seven-match suspension at least adds a smidgeon of intrigue. Will Gordon Strachan, the Coventry manager, use Dublin in central defence, his recent role, or as a central striker, his preferred role? Peter Ndlovu, his often absent teammate, may be back, too.

> LIVERPOOL Stan Collymore has scored on

his last five starts, but no one at Liverpool is apparently closer to understanding his complex character. Collymore did not train yesterday, complaining of feeling poorly, but at least he did turn up. While there are many manswered questions about the club's minst expensive signing there is no doubt he has great talent. "He could become one of the best players in this country, possibly in Burppe, if he gets his mind right." John Rarnes said westerday.

Barnes said yesterday.

MANCHESTER UNITED After the bitter encounter at Highbury, United were still counting their bruises yester-

day. There are a few bruises and strains which we have to check on, Alex Ferguson, the manager, said, "but Pally [Gary Pallister] is the only concern." If he is ruled out, David May will step back in. Nicky Butt is out for up to six weeks, and Eric Cantona is still suspended, leaving Cole and Solskjaer to continue the partnership that was so effective against Arsenal.

MIDDLESBROUGH

Bryan Robson, the manager, is close to completing the £1.25 million signing of Mark Schwarzer, Bradford City's 24year-old Australia goalkeeper. Schwarzer has played just 16 games for Bradford since arriving from Kaiserslautern, of Germany, for £350,000 in November. Meanwhile Juninho faces Newcastle in the Tees-Tyne derby at the Riverside today before flying out to Brazil for an international against Poland next week. Emerson is suspended, while Whyte is injured.

NEWCASTLE UNITED He is described as Mr Miser-

able, but Kenny Dalglish, the manager, can display a cutting humour. Asked yesterday if he thought the Premiership contest is now a two-horse race, his response was telling. "Who else is in it with us?" he smiled. He will soon have Newcastle winning consistently, and if they should record victory in the match they have in hand over the top two clubs, then they would be only five points adrift. It is a significant gap, but not impossible to bridge.

WIMBLEDON

of Fifa and Uefa for their opposition to the

plan. In the real world, a Wimbledon

victory at Arsenal tomorrow, where they

are unbeaten in eight visits, would make them outright leaders of the capital's

unofficial championship, based on games

between London clubs rather than league

position. Neither they nor their opponents

The Football Association of Ireland are still taking the "Dublin Dons" stories serious-

ly enough to secure the backing

menacingly around the City Ground corridors since the FA Cup ignominy at Chesterfield, there seems little chance of a repeat performance when Forest resume league duties against Aston Villa today, Better times appear to lie ahead for the manager. The takeover should be resolved — not before time — on Monday night, while Steve Stone takes the next step in his recovery from a long term knee injury when he begins jogging later in the week. RH

NOTTINGHAM FOREST

3 With Smart Pearce scowling

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY David Pleat, the manager, was

not a happy man this week, despite a rather important FA Cup victory at Bradford. It was Chris Waddle, a former player, who raised his hackles, with comments comparing Wednesday to Wimbledon. "Obviously whoever said that doesn't know too much about football." he said. "We have a different system, so it it is a ridiculous comparison. Maybe it was a compliment, because Wimbledon are passing the ball around well, just like us."

SUNDERLAND

The encounter with Leeds today at Roker Park evokes memories of the 1973 FA Cup Final, which Sunderland won 1-0, courtesy of Ian Porterfield's goal and Jim Montgomery's superb double save. moorary newcomers at Si land are two Danes, Rena Pedersen and Kim Heiselberg. While Sam Aiston, the promising young winger, is gaining match practice on loan at Chester, Peter Reid, the manager, is casting covetous eyes at Grimsby's teenage left winger, John Oster. HOW THEY STAND +23 +26

Liverpool... +20 41 30 29 4 Rigidatii 24 27 Nottinghern Forest...

Benali is suspended, Matthew Oakley is doubtful, and bids by Graeme Souness, the manager, for Carl Serrant, the Oldham Athletic left back, and Steve Harkness, the Liverpool defender, have been turned down. Looking on the bright side, Southampton have games in hand on their rivals at the foot of the Premiership, Ray Clemence has joined the club as part-time goalkeeping adviser. Jason Dodd could return, and a certain England international may feel he has a point to prove.

SOUTHAMPTON

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR

Tony Lenaghan, Tottenham's overworked and presumably underpaid physiotherapist, has been receiving assistance from an unlikely source in recent weeks, Two

health experts from Holland were airlifted in to the club's Chigwell training ground to help nurse the walking, and hobbling wounded back to fitness. "It got a bit too much for Tony and his staff," Gerry Francis, the Tottenham manager, said. "He needed a few extra hands and the Dutch guys have done a good job."



if only points were as easy to accumulate as pounds. Inside 24 hours West Ham have raised £1.6 million through a share issue that values the club at £50 million, and "saved" £1.5 million on the purchase of John Hartson. "We only paid E3.5 million," Harry Redknapp, the manager, said. The customary add-ons are such that, for the deal to be worth the reported £5 million. "we would have to win the Champions' League next year and I would have to score the winning goal." KP

WEST HAM UNITED

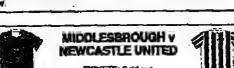
have lost a derby this season. Reports: Briss Glanville, Peter Ball, Russell Kempson, Richard Hobson, Nick Szczaptnik, Kaith Pite, David Maddock. Statistics: Julian Deaborough

MANCHESTER UNITED TICKETS: Sold out

19-YEAR RECORD: 1-1, 1-2, --, 1-0, 3-2, 1-3, 1-1, 1-0, 2-3, 1-4. HOW THEY LINE UP

CHELSEA (from): K Hitchcock, F Grodas, D Petrescu, E Newtors, F Leboeut, E Johnsen, F Sinclair, S Clarke, A Myors, F di Metteo, S Mirto, J Morris, R Guilit, D Wise, P Hughes, M Nicholls, G Zota, G Vialli, M Hughes.

MANCHESTER UNITED (from): P Schmeichel, G Neville, G Pallister, R Johnsen, D Irwin, K Poborsky, D Beckham, R Keane, R Giggs, A Cole, O G Solskjær, P Neville, D May, B McClair, J Cruyff, R van der



TICKETS: Sold out 10-YEAR RECORD: --, --, 1-1, 4-1, 3-0, 3-0, --, --, 1-2."

HOW THEY LINE UP MEDDLESBROUGH (from). B Roberts, N Cox, S Vickers, G Festa, C Flemmig, C Hignest, P Stamp, R Mustoe, A Moore, F Flevenelli, Juninto, M Back,

NEWCASTLE UNITED (from): S Histop, W Berton, J Benestord, D Betty, D Peacock, R Lee, P Beerdsley, A Shearer, L Ferdinand, F Asprilla, R Elliott, D Ginola, K Gillespie, S Watson, L Clark, P Albert.

Leading Scorers

20: A Sheerer (Newcastle), 17: I Wright (Assensi), 14: D Yorke (Aston Villa), 13: R Fowler (Liverpool), 12: O G Soldiner (Manchester Utd), L Ferdinand (Newcastle Utd), 10: C Sutton (Blackburn), S Collymore (Liverpool), F Raverseli (Middlesbrough), M Le Tesier (Southempton), 9: E Ekoku (Wimbledon), 8: G Viell (Chelses), D Dublin (Coventry), E Cantona (Manchester Utd), M Gayle (Wimbledon)

CHAMPIONSHIP BETTING : 8-)1: Manchester United; 17-4: Liverpoot; 6-1: Newcastle United; 10-1: Arsenal; 14-1: Chelses; 40-1: Aston Villa; 50-1: Wimbledon

Odds supplied by Ledbrokes The official internet site of the FA Casting Premienting is at http://www.fa-casting.com/

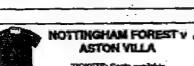
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COVENTRY CITY V EVERTON

10-YEAR RECORD: 1-1, 1-2, 0-1, 2-0, 3-1, 0-1, 0-1, 2-1, 0-0, 3-1 HOW THEY LINE UP COVENTRY CITY (from): S Ogrizovic, R Shaw, G Breen, P Williams, M Hall, P Teiler, K Richardson, E Jess, G McAllister, N Whelen, D Huckerby, D Dublin, P Ndlovu, B Borrows, A Evhushok, G Sitection, W Boland, J Filan.

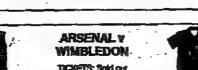
EVERTON (from): P Genard, E Banett, T Phelan, D Unsworth, D Watson, C Short, G Shuart, G Speed, N Barmby, G Allen, M Branch, D Ferguson, C Thomsen, N Southall, P Hideout, M Ball.



10-YEAR RECORD: 60, -, 46, 1-1, 2-2, 2-0, 0-1, -, 1-2, 1-1,

HOW THEY LINE UP NOTTINGHAM FOREST (from): M Crossley, A Fettis, D Lyttle, Al Hazland, C Cooper, S Chettle, D Philips, C Bart-Villiams, S Gentralit, C Allen, I Wosn, K Campbell, D Saundars, P McGregor, B Roy, V Warner, S Blatherwick.

ASTON VILLA: M Bosnich, F Nelson, A Wright, U Enlogu, S Steunton, G Southgate, I Taylor, M Draper, A Townsend, D Yorke, S Milosevic. Substitutes: 7 Johnson, J Joachim, C Tiller, R Scimera, M Oakes.



TICKETS: Sold out 16 YEAR RECORD: 31, 30, 22, 00, 22, 1-1, 01, 1-1, 60, 1-3

HOW THEY LINE UP ARSENAL (from): J Lukie, t. Dixon, A Adams, P Viela, M Keburn, S Bould, N Winterburn, R Partour, P Merson, D Bargkamp, I Wright, M Rose, R Garde, S Marshall, S Montou, L Harper, P Shaw, S Hughes, A Clarker, G Widdown.

WIMBLEDON from) N. Sullhein, K. Cunningham, A. Kimble, D. Biackwell, C. Parry, V. Jones, O. Leonhardsen, R. Earler, E. Biolou, M. Gayle, J. Goodman, D. Holdestarth, M. Arcley, M. Herturd, D. Jupp. B. McAllister, B. Muschy.



LEICESTER CITY V DERBY COUNTY

10-YEAR RECORD: -, -, -, -, -, 1-2, 3-2, 3-3, -, 0-0.



HOW THEY LINE UP BICESTÉR CITY (fiorn): K Kaller, J Lawrence, S Prior, S Grayson, Rolling, J Walts, S Walsh, S Taylor, S Campball, S Wilson, I Marshall, I Robins, S Claridge, K Poole.

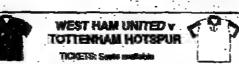
DEPISY COUNTY (from): R Hoult, G Rowelt, P McGreift, I Stimac, L Carsley, P Trollope, C Powell, C Delily, A Asenovic, D Sturidge, A Werd, P Simpson, S Plynn, J Laursen, M Taylor, M Rehmberg.



10 YEAR RECORD: 1-1, 1-1, 1-2, 2-2, --, 0-1, 1-2, 1-1, 0-0, 0-1.

HOW THEY LINE UP SOUTHAMPTON (from): M Teytor, N Maddleon, K Monkou, R Dyden, E Berkovic, A Netson, J Magdlon, J Dodd, S Charlton, M le Tissier, E Oetenstad, S Bertham, M Coldey, D Beaseast, D Hughes, R Sletar, U van Golbel.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (from); K. Pressman, S. Nicol, I. Nolan, D. Waker, J. Newsome, P. Atherton, M. Pembridge, W. Collins, R. Humphreys, B. Carbone, A. Booth, D. Hinst, R. Blinker, M. Clarke, D. Stefanovic, O. Dorraldson, L. Briscoe.



HOW THEY LINE UP WEST HAM UNITED (from): L. Mildosko, T. Breacher, S. Potts, M. Hieper, K. Rowland, J. Dicks, R. Ferdinand, D. Williamson, J. Hartson, P. Kitson, Bilshop, H. Porlirio, I. Dowle, F. Lumpard, L. Sealey, M. Bowen,

10-YEAR RECORD: 21, 0-1, 0-2 -- -- 21, -- 1-3, 1-2, 1-1

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (Iront): I Walker, S Campbell, C Calderwood, C Wison, D Howells, D Anderton, R Fox, E Sheringham, A Sinton, R Rosentinal, S Carr, J Edinburgh, E Beardson, A Nielean, D Hill, R Allan, J Scales, D Austin.



LIVERPOOL V **BLACKBURN ROVERS** TICKETS: Sold out

18-YEAR RECORD: --, --, --, --, 2-1, 0-1, 2-1, 3-0. HOW THEY LINE UP LIVERPOOL (from): D James, D Matteo, S I Bjornebye, J McAtser, M Wright, N Ruddock, P Bebb, J Barnes, S McManaman, M Thomas, J Redknepp, S Collymore, R Fowler, J Carragher, M Kennedy, A Warner, P Berger, B Kverme.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (from): T Flowers, H Berg, J Kenna, C Hendry, G le Seuc, T Sherwood, G Flicroft, W McKinlay, J Wilcox, C Sution, K Gattacher, G Donis, S Given, P Warhungt, L Bohinen, N Gudmundsson, N Marker, G Croft, P Pedecsen.



HOW THEY LINE UP SUNDERLAND (from): L. Perez, D. Kubicki, G. Half, M. Scott, P. Bracewell, K. Ball, A. Melville, G. Ord, S. Agnew, D. Kelly, C. Russell, M. Gray, M. Bridges, M. Broith, A. Ree, J. Hullin, J. Erikeson, D. Williams, P. Hackingbotham.

LEEDS UNITED (from): N Mertyn, G Kelly, A Dortgo, C Palmer, L Radebe, G Halle, R Molenear, L Bowyer, M Jackson, B Deene, R Wallace, A Yaboeh, I Rush, I Harte, D Wetherell, M Beeney.

WHEN TO WATCH ON TELEVISION

BBC1.10.50pm Metch of the Day

11am Sky Sports Goals on Sunday ipm Sky Sports Arsend v Wimbledon (live)

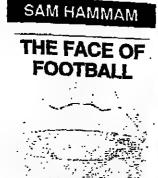
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MOW PEFCE-5

ipm Sky Sports West Hem United v Tattenham Hötspur (live)

Winning means survival for the little big club that dare not lose

Hammam passionate about his gang



By Rob Hughes

t is not lost on Sam Hammam that the little

club that he owns and

runs tackles Arsenal, the north London giant, tomorrow. Which is the superior force in

**II Rail** 

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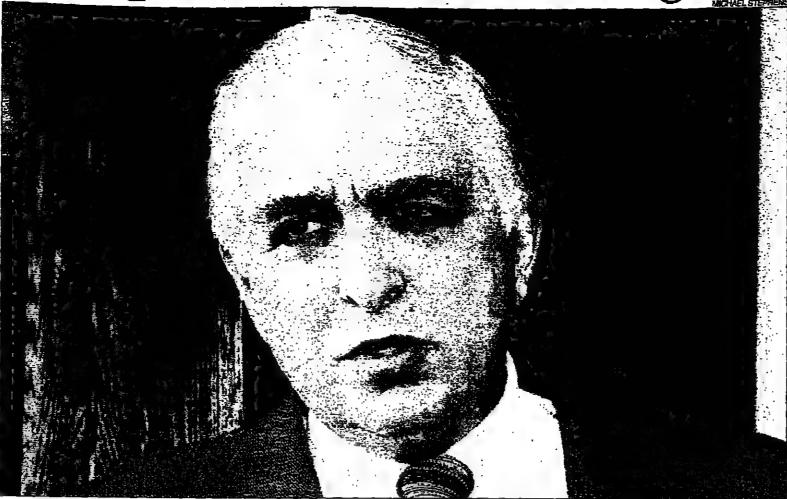
They come from opposite ends of the FA Carling Premiership's fair play league. with Wimbledon in unaccustomed position near the top, and Arsenal bottom, Wimbledon, with a third of Arsenal's support at very best, have three times the opportunities to reach European competition at the end of this season .. and Hammam, a Lebanese, a Christian and a refugee from civil war, is elated at the

the capital?

status of his club. He will tell you a dozen times in half an hour that nobody - nobody has better cover in their squad than Wimbledon FC. We could put one of two teams out at Highbury tomorrow," he enthuses, "and both of them would give Arsenal a game." Hammam's enthusiasm, his

torrent of words, his almost evangelical crusade for Wimbledon is like Vesuvius; there is energy and combustion to And yet, when he pauses at

his Regents Park home for reflection, Hamman, the businessman who has sold construction ideas throughout the Middle East, admits that he has fear, almost loathing, for the new money that is turning football into an unrecognisable business scrummage. "Once we are directors answering to shareholders and to the City, then we have transformed our-



Hammam, who bought Wimbledon on a whim and made it a phenomenal success, says the club's rise stands as a ray of hope to others

bledon is about, because

Hammam acknowledges that it cannot be rationalised in

If pressed, he will admit to

the coarse, abrasive, even ugly

aspects of which he and the

team dubbed the Crazy Gang

have been accused. He will not

apologise, not for Vinnie

Jones, not for the scrawling on

the walls of the West Ham

United dressing-room. Wim-

bledon, he repeats, is family, and nobody touches his

Thus, if Jones has stepped

out of order. Hammam will

sort him out, though in public

selves from a football club to a commodity," he reasoned.

He bought into this club, soon bought a majority, on an impulse, when his wife came to England to give birth to their daughter at St Theresa's Hospital, in Wimbledon, It was not, he insists, an investment; he knew next to nothing about the club, about football or the business that it might become. "It is one of those things that you do when you travel," he recalls. "You buy a vase, you fall in love with a

girl, you buy her things you should not." What has become of that young man's fancy, and the 19-year journey of Wimbledon year journey of Wimbledon from Southern League semi-professionalism? "We are in the top five in England for consistency over the last ten years," he booms. "There is Liverpool, Arsenal, Manchester United and Everton

and they are only ahead of us by a nose.
"So what are we to football?

The other clubs, from the biggest to the smallest, look at what we have achieved and what we maintain, and we represent hope - capital let-In the rare instances when

he pauses, one's eye strays to the antique books, the exquisite furnishings, the swords and daggers in the living room. "My background is from an academic family," he observes. "I come from Dhourshweir, 3,000 feet high in the mountains. We could look towards Syria or to the

Now, with his three children resident in the United States, he is Sam the Wimbledon Man. He will tell you he knows little more today than when he started about the

defends, too, any probing questions about who subtactics. That is for his remarkable coach, his creator of silk sidises the almost £2 million purses out of sows ears, Joe Kinnear. Hammam will talk per annum losses of the club, of the family, with himself as "both mother and father". He with the answer: "It's family." In other words, it is in-house wants you to feel in your heart and your stomach what Wim-But, provoked, he will say:

"I do not accept from anyone how to set the standards of behaviour. If the FA charge loe Kinnear, do you think loe Kinnear pays his fine? I pay his fine, it is made up in the salary, tax included." He talks of each of the

managers who have passed through his Wimbledon odyssey, specifying what they gave to the club, what loyalty he still reciprocates to them. Noting that Bobby Gould has been under recent criticism as manager of Wales, the combative Hammam says: "We have debts at Wimbledon because Bobby succeeded in buying a good number of players, some

rebuild our team. With the money for Keith Curle, we bought six players - Robbie Earle, Dean Holdsworth, the miraculous Marcus Gayle, Warren Barton, Alan Kimble and Jones."

Hammam is clutching a fat brown file, its pages are daubed with yellow high-iighter, noting the youth players in other clubs' reserves that he might like to buy, investments for the future of the little big club that Hammam says wins because it dare not lose.

"Wimbledon cannot go down," he confides. If we do, we lose not £2 million a year, but maybe £7 million, because we lose the television money. We are winners because that is our only survival, our hope. Right now we are flavour of the day, as soon as things turn you will see how the dogs

RUGBY LEAGUE

Oldham put

Warnock

in charge of

salvage

operation

NEIL WARNOCK and Andy

Ritchie were yesterday confirmed as the new manage-

ment team of Oldham

Athletic, Warnock, the former

Plymouth Argyle, Hudders

field Town and Notts County

manager, has been given until the end of the season to save

City, who are one place above

them. Ritchie is returning to

the club where he enjoyed the best spell of his playing career.
"We have nine home games

left and I hope we can put together a good run," Warnock, who was sacked by

Plymouth at the beginning of the month, said. "I've come here until the end of the

season, I am hoping to impress the chairman but it's a

wo-way thing. I hope Oldham

Bobby Robson's future as

manager of Barcelona looked

more certain yesterday - de-spite another defeat. A 2-0

reverse at Real Sociedad on

Thursday meant that Rob-

son's team missed out on a

chance to close the gap on Real

Madrid, the league leaders, and increased the pressure

from supporters.

impress me as well."

the club from relegation. Oldham are bottom of the Nationwide League first divi-sion and today face Bradford

#### **Branson** looking for early **Success**

By Christopher Irvine

ALTHOUGH virgins in business terms, in rugby league terms, London Broncos are no pushovers. Richard Branson is due at the newest corner of his empire and will deem his 15 per cent stake in the club particularly worthwhile if Bradford Bulls are beaten in the televised Silk Cut Chalf-enge Cup fifth-round tie today.

It was a tremendous effor last season by London to finish in the top four of the Super League. The backbone of that side remains, but the Broncos have brought with them from their Queensland training camp a fresh crop of young Australians, including Josh White, the former Illawarra scrum half, of whom much is expected alongside Tulsen Tollett, the Great Britain

international. Until a much-vaunted youth system begins to percolate through to the first XIII the Broncos must rely on imported talent. As outrageous as his claim about the Broncos being the world force in three or four years sounded, Barry Maranta, like Branson, gets results. Before he bought the London club. Maranta helped make Brisbane Broncos the biggest organisation in

However, Josep Usis Nuñez, the president said: "Despite the criticism of the coach, Barcelona remains the best team and I want Robson to see out this season and the next one as well."

Garry Parker, the Leicester City midfield player, is pre-pared to make a last-minute ourney from his wife's hospital bedside to play against Derby County at Filbert

Parker's wife, Petra, went into labour four months prematurely earlier this week and doctors are trying to save the baby. Martin O'Neill, the Leicester manager, said: "Garry is hoping everything is alright at the hospital and that he will be okay to play. He knows he has until the last minute before making his decision.

Talks on the future of Brighton were postponed for a

sporting Australia. At the redeveloped Stoop Memorial ground, there is the chance to put down roots and tap into the potentially big audience that Maranta and Branson are convinced exists. A winning side is imperative, and if London could reach the final at Wembley, on May 3, they really will have arrived.

However, the instantly recognisable player to watchers of Harlequins, who the Broncos hope to convert in their tenancy agreement with the rugby union club, is Robbie Paul, the Bradford captain. After his recent short spell with Harlequins, Paul is more familiar with the tightlypacked ground than the Broncos players. Paul, 21, aiready has a place

in Challenge Cup history as the player who scored three tries and was on the losing side in the classic final against St Helens last year. If they find some way of stifling his mercurial talents, London can cause an upset. The Bulls had the edge last year in two close

lestyn Harris, the Wales and Britain back, who has not played for Warrington since the club put him for sale last July at a prohibitive £1.35 million, is among the substitutes for the home tie against Sheffield Eagles tomorrow. Until he was invited to return last week, he trained alone. His value was underlined in a try-scoring comeback on Thursday for the reserve team.

In a third all-Super League tie, home advantage and a veteran pack, in which David Hulme, 33, is promoted from the bench, should see Salford through at the expense of Paris

Saint-Germain. Lee Briers, 19, takes over the scrum half and place-kicking responsibilities from the suspended Bobbie Goulding for

## Le Tissier stands by his Italian job

has spoken for the first time about his disappointment in England's defeat by Italy in their World Cup qualifying match and about the criticism heaped

upon him afterwards. I knew that if we didn't win, then no matter how well I played, the story would be it was because Hoddle took a gamble by picking Le Tissier.' he said. "If the header I had in the first half had gone in, the headlines would have been very different. But I'm not surprised by the reaction, as the press have been waiting for a while for a chance to have a go at me and now

Le Tissier, who will be playing for Southampton against Sheffield Wednesday

A authew Le Tissier Dominique Baldy hears the England misunderstood. Newspapers

striker reject criticism of his role

today, said that the England coach, Gienn Hoddle, did not hold him responsible for England's failure. "I've spoken to Glenn on the phone since the game and he told me that, watching the video of the match since, he thought I looked the player most likely to score and that he now feels he should have kept me on a

little longer."
in Le Tissier's view, the new coach to the Italy team, Cesare Maldini, has rejuvenated a side demoralised by the tactics of his predecessor, Arrigo Sacchi, and it was hardly coincidental that, confronted by a reorganised Italian de-

CRICKET

TOUR MATCH: Durben (second day of tour): Notel 235 (M L Bruyns 105, D M Berkenstein 105, J N Glifespie 4-71) and 21-12; Austmäsna 370 (M E Waugh 124, M G Bevan 52; P L Sympox 4-117)

CYCLING

fence right on top of its game, none of England's attacking players enjoyed a night to remember.

"Why can't we just acknowledge the fact that the Italians are a very good team?" Le Tissier asked. "People forget they were only knocked out of the European championship early because the coach at the time messed about with the side so much." Le Tissier is, perhaps, more angered by what he considers a distortion of the facts surrounding allegations that his brother, Carl. was responsible for leaking

printed the team the morning of the game and I understand it was in the Italian papers the day before. Radio Guernsev then went to my brother with that information and asked him for his reaction to my being selected. Nobody seems to have asked who was responsible for the original leak and I find that amoying."

Le Tissier's next opportunity to launch an international cureer that has yet to fully get off the ground should come against Mexico on March 29.
If he manages to illuminate that evening with one of his moments of genius, the disap-pointment of ten days ago will soon be forgotten. If not, then he will have no illusions about what to expect in the newspapers the next day.

## Keelan plans Wembley return

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMMIE

KEVAN KEELAN will be went over the bar," -- and a 3-1 who had won every game urging his Mossley team to defeat for Witton. throw every last ounce of effort into the FA Carlsberg Vase quarter-final at Whitby Town today and so bring the prospect of appearing at Wembley the step and a hop of a twolegged semi-final away.

a player when Mossley reached the 1980 FA Trophy final and again as a coach with Witton Albion when they played Colchester United in the 1992 Trophy final. His enthusiasm remains undimmed by memories of a 2-1 defeat for Mossley - "I had a header in the last minute from a yard out. The ground was particularly hard that year and I headed it down and it

NATIONAL LEAGUS (NHL): Florida 2 New Jersey 2 (OT); Tampa Bay 5 Philadelphia 2, Chicogo 5 Boston 3, Si Louis 1 Ottawa 1 (OT): Los Angelas 3 Angheiri 1; Vignoouwer 6 San Jose 1.

LACROSSE

HIGH WYCCMEE Tembrial lournament: North bt Midlands 14-2, North bt British Universities 12-4, West bi Midlands 6-2, West bt East 5-4.

NORDIC SKUNG

TRONOHEIM, Norway: World champion-shipe: Freestyle: Men. (30km); 1, A Prolucroto (Russ) 1tr Ofren 282sec: 2, B Deathle (Nor) 1:06 45, 3, T Alsquad (Nor) 1:06 49.2; 4, P.P. Cotter (9) 1:07 12.8, 5, F Valbus (B) 1:07 35.7, Women (15km); 1, E Valbe (Russ) 35mm 28.2sec: 2, S Belmondo (n) 35, 39.1; 3, K Neumannova (Cr) 36:12 0, 4, O Danione (Russ) 37:13.2; 5, N Gambali, (Russ) 37:19.5.

Keelan went to Wembley as

"I think if you've been there once, the craving is stronger than if you've never been there." Keelan said. He knows, however, that it will

take something out of the ordinary for the players to follow their manager, now 44, out at Wembley on May 10. Whitby Town are formidable opponents. They have already hit the headlines by

reaching the FA Cup first round, before going out 8-4 after extra time in a replay to Hull City, and are having a fine season in the Northern League. "I've seen them play and they are a very strong side," Keelan said. "They beat Tiverton in the last round,

Will Warn with

(Nerwick) 480.3; 3; F Baskerville (Lichfeid) 474 2: Durtcon Plate (aggregale): 1, Gauf 1.145µs, 2, S Presion 1,145; 3, Leutherdale 1,145 (on dountback)

RACKETS

doubles chemponship: Ouvrier-finals: T Cookrott and R Owen-Browne bt S Keemdal and M Hernman 15-2, 15-4, 15-7, 15-1: G Barker and A Robinson bi A de-Cadenet and C Hell 15-3, 15-2, 15-0, 15-6 W Boode and M Windows bi K Walker and C

CLIEEN'S CLUB; Luccola British const

so they must now be the favourites for the Vase." In the other Vase quarterfinals, it is Taunton Town's

they'd played in their league.

task to try where Tiverton Town failed and win on Northern League territory at Guisborough Town. Bedlington Terriers, the Northern League's third representatives, travel to North Ferriby United and Northwood Town meet Banstead Athletic in an all-leis-League confrontation. ☐ The former Wales striker. Malcolm Allen, has joined Stevenage Borough, the Vauxhall Conference champions, and travels with their squad for the game at Stalybridge tomorrow.

(Eng) bt T Lincou (F1) 15-9, 15-12, 10-15, 15-12 A Gough (Wales) bt A Fazy (Egypt) 15-9, 15-17, 15-12, 10-15, 15-6 S Cest-eleyn (Belt bt C van der Wath (SA) 17-16, 8-16, 6-15, 15-5, 15-10, P Johnson (Eng) bt Stiff (Eng) 9-13, 15-7, 15-6, 15-17; D Meddings (Eng) bt J Raumoth (Fin) 15-9, 15-1, 15-8 Hadderd (Aus) bt A Wagh (Egypt) 11-16, 15-9, 15-17, 15-8, 15-7

SWIMMING

#### IN BRIEF

St Helens, at home to Huli.

### pulls in the crowds

Australia cricket team this summer has reached unprecedented levels, despite England having not come close to winning the Ashes for a de-cade (Simon Wilde writes). Demand for tickets at the six Test matches and three Texaco Trophy matches has been strong since November and has little to do with England's successes in New Zealand.

Most Test grounds are reporting higher than usual demand for this time of year, though seats are still available for all matches outside the capital.

Shaun Young, the Austra-

lian all-rounder, was yesterday named as Gloucestershire's overseas player for the coming season. He will replace Courtney Walsh.

☐ Football: England face a tough task to qualify for the 1999 women's World Cup finals in the United States. England have been drawn in a group with the 1995 champions, Norway, beaten finalists, Germany, and Holland.

Swimming: Jaime King. the British Olympic swimmer, yesterday reached the final of the 50-metre breaststroke with a time of 34.91sec at the Leeds Multi Nations

#### That's been completely EOR THE RECORD

## **ATHLETICS** STOCKHOLM: International meeting tunners and British Men: 80m; 8 Sunn (Can) 6.51, 400m; 1. D Hall (US) 46.42, 2. G Buffeck (CB) 46.42, 1.000m; M. Koers Bridin 2mn 17 77se. 1.500m; 1. W Tanu (Ken) 2.56.89, 2. M O'Sulivan (Ire) 337.40 5.000m; H Gebrseksse (Erli) 1259.04 (vond rocord) High jump; T Jantu (C2) 2.23m Long jump; I Pedroco (Cuba) 8.27m Pole vasit; O Brits (SA) 5.85m. Women; 80m hurdless M Freetran (Jam) 7.80 800m; M Murch (Mc2) 1180 II High jump; 8 80m; Sizvens) 1.94m. Triple jump, A Harsen (GB) 14.53m BASKETBALL

EURCL SAGUE: Group E: Maccab Tel Ann 82 C-5 - Jakos (G) 78. MATIO EAL ASSOCIATION INBAIL Indexes 92 Demer 68, Martin 92 New Jersey 87; Pittarleighes 101 LA Cippers 84 Mahazinee 701 Delles 99 Housson 107 Toronto 97; Noti 122 Soston 106 New York 109 Streaments 87.

RUTA DEL SOL: Filth stage (Grenada, 107km): 1, J Musaeuw (Bai) 2hr 43min 20ser; 2, E Zabai (Gar): 3, A Edo (So): 4, V Elumov (Russ); 5, J Plandkeet (Bai); 6, O Ebebams (Soi: 7, A Carzonnen (R); 8, G Hincape (US): 9, T Hamilton (US), 10, 5 Smatarine (Russ) all same time

FOOTBALL Minstonusad Kent League: Piral distision: Canartury o Ramsgale 0. Group bur: Geratio (8) 2 Cruzero (8) 1 SCHOOLS MATCHES: London Cup under-15: Middlesex 4 Kent 0. English Knowles Cup under-14: Middlesex 2 Kent 4. English Schools Snickers under-19

SNOW REPORTS

(Spm) Liss C snow Conditions Fluns to Piste Off/p resort 25 55 good varied worn sun (Good on upper slopes, getting patchy low down) 65 85 good varied closed fine (Most pistes in very good shape on both mountains) 30 50 good varied by fair (Lowest furs by slushy; good higher up) 30 70 good heavy good sun (Generally excellent some south lacing runs slushy) AUSTRIA 20/2 Mayrholen Schledaning Soli MANCE 115 250 good varied good SIN Mpe of Huez 113 284 good vaned good Superb sking under sunny skes) 50 185 good varied good (Great swing in beliant sunshine) 160 225 good varied good (Wonderhit sking conditions everywhere) sum 5 18/2 Membel

fine ignee - SWITZEPLAND SS 330 good powdar good (Good sking on well-prepared pistes)
35 190 good varied good figured sking everywhere, superb weather) 4 18/2 \$6 Successive generounaire, supero wearner)
\$2: 185 good varied wom sun
(Great sking above 2,000m, getting wom below)
\$0: 280 good varied fear sun
Nery good signs, some stush low down in pm) sun 3 \ube 19/2 STILL L - lower slopes; U - upper.

Trophy: Barry Boys, Cardiff 2 King's, Cheshee 3 (act) English Goodyear under-18 Trophy: Bedimmister Down, Gloucester 6 Churston GS 0 "FA Premier League Under-19 Trophy: Nortols 3 Bestfordsrine 1. English Gikis Under-16 Vintib Trophy: Taporley 1 Bridgnorth Endowed 0 SPANISM LEAGUE: Real Socieded 2 Revoluted.

Hoddle's team in advance.

SPANISM LEAGUE Heat Sociation Con-Baccelona Custani (Par) 1 Cerro Portano (Por) 0. Group hero; Velez Sarsileid (Ayg) 2-Racing Club (Arg) 1; Emelec (Ecu) 2 Ascional (Ecu) 1 Group three: Colo Colo (Chile) 2 Universidad Catolica (Crite) 2 DUNHELL CUP. China 3 Singapore 1; Finland 1 Mateyses 2 (both in Kuela Lumpus) FREESTYLE SKIING

KIRCHBERG, Austria: World Cup event: Aerials: Merc 1, J Bean (Car) 230.91pts 2, N Fontaire (Car) 230.73pt; 3, A Caplob, (Car) 254.64, 4, J-D Camonat (Iri 209.97; 5, B Swartey (US) 304.24 Women: 1, C Oliver (Car) 172.27pt; 2, V Brance (Car) 172.27pt; 2, V Brance (Car) 172.27pt; 2, N Brance (Car) 172.27pt; 3, N Store (US) 164.41 Mogulas: Mart 1, T Herrery (Fr), 2, S Smith (US), 3, J Romback (Swey, 4, J-D Brassard (Car); 5, F Bertrand (Fr), Women: 1, C Gig (Fr); 2, A Battelle (US), 3, K Trans (Not; 4, J Cherbonneau (Car), 5, A Boiblerg (Dan).

GOLF

GOLF

UCHUNESCHIRG: Africo District Senath
African PGA Championship: Loaders effort
two founds (Great Entan and Ireland
unless stated) 131: R Goosen (SA) 66, 68
132: D Frost (SA) 69, 63: T Cogele (Gor) 64.
88 133: N Price (Zim) 67, 66, M Scarpe (t)
65, 68: 134: W Westner (SA) 68, 66, V
Philips 70, 64; G Emerson 67, 67: B May
(US) 66, 68: N Torroll Liepent 67, 67: B May
(US) 66, 68: N Torroll Liepent 67, 67: 135:
M Murless (SA) 68, 69, N Fasth (Swe) 66,
69: P Lawne 69, 66; M Angler (Swe) 68, 67: M
69: P Lawne 69, 66; M Angler (Swe) 68, 68; N van Rensturg (SA) 68, 68, A
Archer 68, 68, 137: M Mackettoe 69, 68, A
Roestoff (SA) 67, 70: C Clark 69, 62; H
Belooch (SA) 69, 69, 65 G Sherry 69, 68;
B Obi (US) 68, 69; J Nelson (SA) 65, 71,
D Torblanche (SA) 69, 69, 65 G Sherry 69, 68;
B Obi (US) 68, 69; J Nelson (SA) 65, 71,
Contrare (M) 70, 67, 138: B Vaughan (SA) 68,
70: I Gamado (Sa) 69, 69, M Coopen
(Aus) 69, 69; W Bracky (SA) 69, 70, 71;
Cerbatt 70, 68; M Jonzon (Swe) 70, 68; G
Chalmatt (Aus) 70, 68; P Locales 9, 69
SYDNEY: Canon Challenge: Leaders after
two rounds (Australia unless stated): 137:
D Ecolo 70, 67: S Alker (NZ) 67, 70; R
Stephens 69, 69; P Locales 89, C Gray
67: 138: L Parsons 67, 71; P Senior 68,
70: 139: 7 Testnan (Lappan) 71, 68; R
Allendy 70, 69; 140; W Wheelhouse (NZ) 69,

TUCSON, Arisona: Tucson Classic: Leading first-round scores (United States unless stated): 98: J Masgart, S Jones 67: D Pooley, C Rose, R Teey, S Dunlan, J Hart. 88: K Trojest, B Bryent, M Wiebe, J D Blake 69: S Gump, W Andrada, N Ozeid (Japan), D Duval, T Kile, J McGovern, R Cochren. KAPOLE: LPGA Haweilan Open: Legding first-round scores (United States unless stated): 85: N Noro (Japan) 67: E King, T Kardy, A Screnstam (Swe), K Robbins 80: D Eggefing, L Lundley, 68: B Whitehead, V Striner, A Ritzman, D Richard (Can), M Mallon, P Hurst, European scores; 70: M Figueras-Dotti (Sp), L Davies (GB) 73: C Nissman, (Swe), K Marshalt (CB) 74: C Nissman, S E Dashiol (Swe), A Dibos (Sp), S Croca (8), 78: S Studwick (GB).

AMIENS, Feanor: European women's Indoor club chemptonship: A diMeion: Pool A: Ruscelsheim (Ger) 6 Stadias (Lift) 2 Pool 8: Bertin 15 Lokomotova Race (Sloveker) 1: Stough 8 Donchsmite (Pluss) 5 BUSA CHAMPKONSHIPS: Quanter-finals: Men: Hestol-Weit 1 Swansea 0 Women: Berningham 3 Exister 0 Semi-final draw: Men: Bunel v Loughborough; Crew/Alsager v Herb-Wat. Women: Birmingham v Edinburgh, Durham v Loughborough. ICE HOCKEY

HOCKEY

SUPERLEAGUE: Cardill 6 Manchester 4:

SHOOTING ALDERSLEY: British open air 'pistol chempionashipus Mant. 1, P Leatherdale (Norwich) 489 5915, 2 M Gault (Norwich) 576.6, 3, W Hill (Rickstoy) 557.2 Women: 1, C Page (Manyletone) 477.7pts; 2, L Elsworthy (Stanley) 472.6; 3, L Brid (East Bristo) 470.1 Junior men: 1, S Martin (Parkstone) 572.5pts; 2, S Preston (York) 658.6; 3, N Schreiver 632.6, Junior women: 1, N Preston (York) 486 1pts; 2, F Leech

GAFARISCH-PARTENIOFICHEN, Germany, World Cup event: Super-glant stellom; 1, L Alphend (Fr) Imm 15 22ac 2, H Meser (Austral) 1 15 87, 3, W Perelhoner (II) 1 15 90; 4, E Podivinsky (Can) 1:15.96, 5, k A Aemod (Not) 1:15.97 Super-G stemings: 1, Alphend 222pts, 2, P Runggelder (II) 186, 3 H Knaus (Austral) 127, 4, J Sunbi (Rustria) 124; 5, A Skaardal (Not) 112. Overall World Cup standings: 1, Alphend 537(pts; 2, Armod 786; 3, T Sylvan (Austria) 688; 4, K Ghedina (II) 662; 5, M von Grüngen (Sunt) 622.

ANTWERP: Esso Open: First round: Zarak Jahan (Pak) bt D Prisece (Eng) 15-13. 12-15, 15-9, 17-14, A Hands (Eng) bt R Lawrigne (Bel) 15-7 15-9, 15-10: J Nicolle

#### RESULTS FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PUTTER AT RYE

FIRST ROUND: J Dale (Cambridge) bt J M Peet (Oxford) 4 and 3 E R Deder (Cambridge) bt AJ Morfey (Oxford) 3 and 2 R J Basson (Oxford) 4 word 3 E R Deder (Cambridge) bt M E Agenborough (Oxford) 4 word AJ Hampal (Oxford) 4 word D J Hampal (Oxford) 4 word AJ Hampal (Cambridge) word AJ Hampal (Cambridge) bt M E Agenborough (Oxford) 1 hole: A G Edmond (Cambridge) bt V P Cooper (Cambridge) bt J R MacKimon (Oxford) 4 and 3, P Gewson (Cambridge) bt C V Dinwoody (Oxford) 6 and 5: M R A Cox (Cambridge) bt D D S Conner (Dxford) 4 hole; N Paber (Oxford) bt J D S Procker (Oxford) 4 and 3, J E B Stobs: (Cambridge) wor R P Lawson (Oxford) wo: P J R Souster (Cambridge) bt M G Ebert (Cambridge) bt H M J Ritiche (Oxford) 2 and 1.
SECOND ROUND: Dester bt Dale 2 and 1. Hampel bt Blasson 20th hole: Wantien bt Travers 6 end 5, Edmond wo: Hennoon bt N J Burise (Oxford) 2 and 1. S Young (Cambridge) bt A P Stracey (Cambridge) wo; J E Behrand (Oxford) 3 and 1. S Young (Cambridge) bt A P Stracey (Cambridge) wo; J E Behrand (Oxford) wo; A de C Aldrich-

Blate (Cambridge) wc; O Malik (Cambridge) wc; PF Gardinar-Hill (Oxford) bt P J R Barflurst (Cambridge) i inole; C J Weight (Cambridge) it N B Poplow (Cambridge) T and 6, A L Wooknough (Oxford) bt A O Alnquist (Cambridge) 6 and 5, J B L Webbs (Cambridge) 6 and 5, J B L Webbs (Cambridge) bt R C P Sedition (Oxford) 3 and 2 D I Wilson (Cambridge) wc; P B K Gracey (Oxford) wc; D E F Semons (Cambridge) bt R W Kreiting (Cambridge) 4 and 3; J A S Nash (Oxford) 13 and 2 D I Webbs (Cambridge) bt G R Ashworth (Oxford) 6 and 5; M G Jemon (Oxford) wc, M E Beild (Cambridge) 4 and 3; J A S Nash (Oxford) 1 hole; R J H Randall (Cambridge) 3 and 2 R C S Palmer (Cambridge) wc; G L Leach (Oxford) that A D Chilvers (Oxford) 1 hole; R J H Randall (Cambridge) bt C G White (Oxford) 2 and 1: C R Rothstoe (Oxford) wc; M P J Borney (Cambridge) wc; P J Hill (Oxford) wc, S R Sentan (Oxford) wc; M P J Borney (Cambridge) wc; W J Hill (Oxford) that R Garbardge) (Cambridge) 3 and 2; J I Harnoel (Oxford) to K H A Inven (Cambridge) 1 hole; R J Eliot (Oxford) wc; R W Devim (Oxford) bt T F

Sharp (Ordord) 4 and 3, J J N Captan (Cembridge) with D.L. Rendell (Dadord) wo. R A Sanders (Oxford) bi J C W Godwin (Cembridge) 5 and 4; M J Dawson (Cembridge) 5 and 4; M J Dawson (Cembridge) bi R Petel (Oxford) 3 and 2; T E Tew (Oxford) wo. J G Clark. (Oxford) wo. M M Willemson (Cembridge) wo. J M I Warman (Cembridge) wo. C L A Edgington (Cembridge) wo. C L A Edgington (Cembridge) wo. C L A Edgington (Oxford) wo. A N Lyle (Oxford) bi P A C Cogen (Cembridge) 19th hole: A G Guest-Gomali (Oxford) bi Ph Weiler (Oxford) 2 and 1; N J Grant (Cembridge) bi G R Hughes (Cambridge) 4 and 3; S M Ritchie (Oxford) bi J G Heiler (Oxford) 2 and 5; J H Palner (Cembridge) bi G M Cambridge) bi G D Rowlands (Oxford) 2 And 2; M Cambridge) bi G D Rowlands (Oxford) 2 and 3; M Sander (Cembridge) bi J N P Benits (Oxford) 4 and 5; M Sander (Cembridge) 5 and 4; M S P Benits (Oxford) bi A D Swanston (Cembridge) 4 and 9; Guest (Cambridge) bi Charson bi Cox 3 and 2; J E B Stobbs (Cambridge) bi Palsari 19th hole; Lawson bi Souster 5 and 4; Green wo.

Ashes series INTEREST in the visit by the

LEEDS; Grand prix meeting; Finate; Merr; 50m freestyle: 1. B Morgan (Camege) 24 73; 2, G Meadows (City of Leeds) 24 80; 3, A Clayfon (City of Leeds) 124 80; 1, Wisson (City of Leeds) 15mm 57 54sec; 2, G Hudson (Portsmouth) 180 65; 3, D Nutrial (Wigen Wasps) 16:23 43, 100m breaststroke; 1, B Kuspers (DWK Barneveld) 1 03:25; 2, R Madden (Rochtable) 1 03:91; 3, A Whitehead (Coverty) 1.05:26 100m butterfly; 1, C Jones (Newcastle) 57 71; 2, R Greenwood (Bohton Metro) 57 74; 3, B Wannekes (DWK Barneveld) 57.88. TENNIS

EASTBOLIFME: UTA men's indoor satellies teamment comment finals: A Fichardson (GB) bit. A hillingan (GB) 6-2, 6-1; 1 Telesiphery (Russ) bit Telesia (Fini 6-4, 1-6, 6-3, D van Uttelen (Bet) bit V Liukko (Fin) 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, M Stadling (Swe) bit C Beecher (GB) 7-5, 6-7.

1chelychev pruss on 1 recomprise on 1-1-3.
6-3, Disan Uticlen (Bel) bit Villadto (Fm) 6-2.
4-6, 6-3, M. Stading (Swe) bit C. Beecher (GB) 7-5, 6-4

ANTWERP: Men's cournement: Second round: M. Derren (Cs) bit M. Ros (Chiel 4-6.
7-5, 7-8 T. Henrian (GB) bit M. Talistrom (Swe) 6-2, 6-3 F. Dewuld (Bel) bit C. Poline (Fr) 7-6, 6-4 D. Norman (Bel) bit C. Poline (Fr) 7-6, 6-4 D. Norman (Bel) bit M. Talistrom (Swe) 6-3, 1-6, 7-6 Quarter-finads: P. Konda (Cs) bit Norman 6-3 6-4 M. Göliner (Ger) bit Quarter-finads: P. Konda (Cs) bit Norman 3-1 ret MEMPHS. Termessee: Men's tournement: Third round: P. Hearthus (Holl) bit C. Woodhif (US) 6-4, 6-4 M. Reneberg (US) bit S. Sargsan (Armi 8-2, 2-6, 6-3, 7. Woodhif (QS) 6-4, 6-1 M. Reneberg (US) bit S. Sargsan (Armi 8-2, 2-6, 6-3, 7. Woodhif (Swe) bit J. Finna (Arg) 6-0, 6-4, B. Sieven (NZ) bit A. Radulessu (Ger) 7-6, 6-4, T. Netton (US) bit A. Radulessu (Ger) 7-6, 6-4, T. Netton (US) bit R. Radulessu (Fr) 6-7, 6-4 M. Albert (Ger) 6-0, 5-7, 6-4; E. Brauke (Russ) bit D. von Roost (Bel) 8-1, 8-2, A-6, Solot (Fr) bit S. Appelmant (Bel) 8-1, 8-2, A-6, Solot (Fr) bit S. Appelmant (Bel) 8-1, 8-2, A-6, Solot (Fr) bit S. Appelmant (Bel) 8-1, 8-2, A-6, Solot (Fr) bit S. Appelmant (Bel) 8-1, 8-2, A-6, Solot (Fr) bit S. Appelmant (Bel) 8-1, 8-2, A-6, Solot (Fr) bit S. Appelmant (Bel) 8-1, 8-2, Solot



SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22 1997

# Shake hands for good of the game

FOR the better part of an hour at Highbury on Wednesday, football was enriched by a spectacle of ballcontrol beyond anyone's expecta-

tions in gale-force conditions.

By the end of the night, that enrichment was contaminated by irresponsible behaviour by Ian Wright; and from then until today. instead of just a game, the affair has disintegrated into a question of racism that, in the present climate of the country, is dangerous beyond the emotions of sport.

Wright appeared on television on Thursday night to disclaim any culpability. "I did nothing wrong," he insisted. "He [Peter Schmeichel, the Manchester United goalkeeper, whose leg might have been broken by Wright's horrendous two-footed tacklej is my fellow pro and I'm not going to say I want anything to happen to him."

So, the Arsenal idol, Wright, insists that he made no complaint about an alleged racist remark

from Schmeichel when they last met and rowed in public at Old Trafford in November, insists that he won the ball with his tackle, insists that nothing untoward hap-pened in the tunnel at the end of the Premiership game on Wednesday. The television pictures, the still photographs — showing not only the destructive nature of Wright's tackle, but the bitter dislike of these two professional performers for one another - and the evidence of

are, then, all bogus. This is a sickening ramification of bad blood that has festered between United and Arsenal for a decade. It spilt over into a mass brawl involving 21 players in 1990; clearly too few people learnt from the tines of £50,000 imposed on each club and the deduction of points. And, apart from Gordon Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Associ-

police intervention in the tunnel

Rob Hughes, football correspondent, on why Wright and

Schmeichel must bury the hatchet in a public reconciliation

swiftly between Wednesday night and Saturday morning to try to take responsibility, to acknowledge that something has to be done and quickly if the national sport is to

maintain its integrity.

Football, perhaps more than any other single activity, can bring harmony between the races. The sight of Schmeichel, big and bloud and Danish, verbally bullying those around him, including some of his own defenders, is destabilising. Wright, black and from south London, can be a charming, even loquacious conver-sationalist, yet he came late into football with a chip on both shoulders and his record of indiscipline is a litany of obsceni-

To wait, as the Football Association is customarily doing for reports, to wait inevitably for the processes of law, emanating from the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) investigation into the first alleged racist argument between

£50m flotation Hammani's crassile

the pair, at Old Trafford, cannot help either football or society. One does not advocate making the game a law beyond judiciary. But even if, in two weeks, the CPS decides that Schmeichel has a case to answer, the long and grinding and flawed process through the courts would leave impressions as ugly as stud marks on the game and on the public's view of intolerance within it.

The allegation against the Den-mark international was refuted sterday by Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager. "We can categorically deny any racist remark whatsoever from Peter chmeichel," he said.

However, Taylor was correct to ek - before the coming-together in acrimony of Wright and Schmeichel on Wednesday — to act as mediator between the pair. He was correct in suggesting that the FA was the proper umbrella for this mediation, but what a pity that Lancaster Gate dithered, preferring to put off any action unless, or until, police concluded their investi-

Wright, of course, can do no wrong. Arsenal, inevitably, tell us so. Arsene Wenger, their French manager, chose yesterday to joke. "Maybe they will meet before the next game and sort this out - and kill one another!"

These are the very last words we need to hear in the present situa-tion. We have a public game, two highly paid public figures and around them an atmosphere in which a national newspaper has recently taken upon itself to name. with photographs, white youths who they say killed a black person. simply because of racial

This afternoon, in stadiums throughout Britain, football again. will engage our emotions. The winner-takes-all philosophy means that some player, somewhere, may tional squad.

"I have seen many, many tackles and punches that have not been judged or seen by referees and nobody talks about them." Wenger insisted. His own club happens to be bottom of the fair play league, with 59 yellow cards and four red ones in 27 FA Carling Premiership games, yet Wenger will not apolo-gise for indiscipline.

If Arsenal has nothing better to offer in this matter, if the FA is merely lying back waiting then perhaps Taylor must go it alone. Football needs an immediate and public handshake, a cessation of hostile words and actions, from Wright and Schmeichel. One hopes that the PFA can arrange this, can, in the sporting vernacular, "knock their heads together and remind the players of Arsenal and Manchester United what they care from the game and what they owe

### Chelsea prepare for test of title credentials

# Gullit fails to tempt Kluivert from Ajax

RUUD GULLITS empire building at Chelsea has received a temporary setback, with Patrick Kluivert, the Holland and Ajax striker, having declined to join the expanding foreign legion at Stamford Bridge, Gullit's audacious at-tempt failed because of Klurvert's preference to play in Italy, for AC Milan, rather than in England when he leaves Ajax

at the end of the season. Gullit's move, though uning. His contacts extend deep into Europe, built from a highly successful playing career, and he has persuaded Gianluca Vialli, Gianfranco Zola, Roberto Di Matteo and Frank Leboeuf to forsake the continent for West London this season.

The offers of vast salaries have helped entice the three Italians and Leboeuf, a Frenchman, but even reported wages of £25,000-a-week were not enough to lure Kluivert. from Amsterdam. He will follow a similar route to Gullit, the Chelsea player-

"I wanted Patrick but I couldn't get him," Gullit said yesterday, after completing his side's preparations for their FA Carling Premiership-match against Manchester United at Stamford Bridge this afternoon, "He made his own decision and wanted to try things in Italy.

"I made an attempt. I watched him, I did everything. Nobody knows that, but I go to Holland often and I do my job. make the same adventure as I



did, that's OK." Gullit may yet try again. "I've told Patrick that I will wait a year and if it does not go well for him, then I will be back. I am making preparations for next season and anyone can see that we

need just players, we need good players." However, Paul Ince, the England and Internazionale midfield player, does not enter the Chelsen equation. Gullit was unimpressed by the pair-ing of Ince and David Batty, of Newcastle United, when Eng-iand lost I-0 to Italy in their

are short of bodies. We don't

World Cup qualifying match at Wembley last week. 'I have no interest in Paul," Guliit said. "We have a similar player in Eddie Newton and having two players like that, you will get the same thing that happened for England against Italy. I'm very happy with Eddie, he's doing very well and I don't need him and ince in the same area."

Chelsea need to win today to retain any interest in the title chase. They trail United, the leaders, by 12 points, but have games in hand and were the

last side to beat them, when they won 2-1 at Old Trafford in

Mark Hughes, the Chelsea striker, who spent 13 years with United, recognises there is no room for error. "If we don't get any kind of result, it will be difficult for us to make a challenge," he said. "I'm not saying it would be the end for us, but it would make them

very difficult to catch.
"United have been setting the standards for the last five or six years. Week in, week out, they turn in results. That's what we have to find. They never panic, they always keep their shape and do what they believe in because they know it works. We've got to get on to that level. What helps United is winning things for years — that breeds confidence. Until we win something, we'll be behind them."

Dennis Wise, the Chelsea midfield player, said: "We always seem to do well against United and now everyone is praying that we beat them again, open it up and give everyone else a chance.

"It's a big game for us, but we have plan which we will stick to. We know we're capable of achieving a place in Europe; now we will find out if we can go on to something

United's pursuit of a fourth title in five years was strengthened by their decisive, if controversial, 2-l victory against Arsenal at Highbury on Wednesday night - a result that stretched their unbeaten league run to 14 matches. Peter Schmeichel, the United goalkeeper, was again involved in an unsavoury incident with Ian Wright, the

Arsenal striker. The players are strong, they have looked really good in training and they are handling the whole thing the right way," Alex Ferguson, the Uni-ted manager, said. "They are not going to be derailed. We must keep focused and not

think of side issues." Schmeichel has two stud marks and swelling on his right ankle, the legacy of a late challenge from Wright, but is expected to retain his place. Gary Pallister and Denis Irwin are doubtful because of injuries and Eric Cantona completes a two-match suspension, but Ferguson is likely to continue with the experimental pairing of Andy Cole and Ole Gunnar Solskjær up



Lue Alphand, of France, hurtles towards victory in the super giant slalom World Cup event at Garmisch-Partenkirchen yesterday, proving that

his failure to win a medal at the recent world championships in Sestriere was a rare aberration in an all-conquering season. His success gave him the lead

in the overall World Cup standings "Forget about the world champion ships," he said. "That's all water under

## Blackburn left in limbo by Eriksson's Italian job

BY DAVID MADDOCK

IT WAS the worst kept secret in football, but Blackburn Rovers finally stopped deluding themselves long enough to that anybody with a passing interest has known for months - Sven Goran Eriksson, the Swede, will not be joining them as the next manag In a terse statement. Jack Walker, the owner of Blackburn, expressed his disappointment after a lengthy

conversation with Eriksson resolved the saga. He has told us that he and his family want to stay in Italy. and that he would like to join Lazio when his contract with Sampdoria expires," Walker said. "It is terribly disappointing because we had a firm contract with him and we were looking forward to him coming here.

Eriksson, for his part, did have the grace to apologise. "I would like to say sorry to the Blackburn supporters because the speculation cannot have been easy for them to accept." he said. "It has been an unfair situation and I was anxious to conclude it as soon as possible My family are very happy and curtailed discussions.

settled here." So Blackburn find themselves in a familiar position, that of searching for a manager of sufficiently high profile to appease their restless supporters and lift the club back to the ights that Walker has come to demand.

It took longer than a month

to arrive at Eriksson when Ray Harford resigned in November and Blackburn will be hoping that another successor can be found with more haste, despite the continuing exceilence of Tony Parkes, the man detailed to act as a caretaker manager until Eriksson's proposed arrival in the summer.

They may aiready, in fact, have a suitable candidate, who was alerted during the last round of approaches. Roy Hodgson, the English-born coach of Internazionale, in Milan, had considered joining Rovers - on a contract also delayed until the summer before Eriksson's agreement

Things have descriorated somewhat in Italy since then for Hodgson and he is apparently keen to prove himself in his homeland. Blackburn have not been as hesitant in a search for a manager this time around. They have already made informal contact with Hodgson and received an encouraging reply. Formal talks could begin almost immediately.

At least one new face arrived at Blackburn yesterday in the shape of Per Pedersen, ZI, a Denmark international who moved there for £2.5 million from Odense. He signed a 42-year contract after passing a medical examination that lasted II hours and will be in the squad to play Liverpool this afternoon.

Premiership guide, page 50

## Hingis replaces Graf in driving seat

Maktina Hingis, the Swiss tennis sensation, who is not yet old enough to drive, has signed a three-year sponsorship deal with Opel, the car company. In the latest of a series of business agreements. Hingis, 16, signed a three-year contract with the General Motors subsidiary on Thursday. She replaces Steffi Graf. the world No I from Germany, whose contract with the company was terminated last

year in the wake of the scandal

GM Europe officials de-

surrounding her tax affairs.

Calls charged at local rate. All calls are monitored for quality.

tralian Open last month to become the youngest grand-slam event champion in 100 years, has moved up to No 2 in the world rankings. Even before her recent triumph in Melbourne, she had signed a \$10 million, five-year deal with

will pay Hingis to wear their logo, star in commercials and

smile at corporate events, but

informed speculation is that it

[£430,000] per year.

will be about \$680,000

Hingis, who won the Aus-

Sergio Tacchini, the Italian sportswear company. said yesterday: "Relations redined to say how much they main good between us and

A GM Europe spokesman

Steffi Graf, even though there is no formal contract. We didn't separate on bad terms." He added that GM Europe had had close links with Hingis and her family for the past four years. "It's just a new

Marc Göllner, of Germany,made comfortable progress into the semi-finals of the European Community championship in Antwerp yes terday as Martin Damm, his Opponent from the Czech Republic, retired injured soon after the start of their match. Damm, ranked No 48 in the world, had needed treatment for a twisted ankle on

chapter." he said.

over Marcelo Rios, the No.2 seed from Chile. .

FRIDAY

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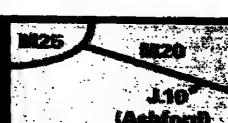
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pan-handling L---

Gölfner, the world No 57. had not beaten Damm in their two previous meetings but was in complete control dur-ing the L5-minute contest of the broke the Czech's service broke the Czech's service 2-0 ahead and took a 3-0 lead with an ace. Göllner faces the winner of the quarter final between Tim Henman, the British No 1 and sole surviv ing seed, and Francisco Clavet, a clay-court battler from Spain, who has taken three sets to win each of his previous two matches.

To really fly to Paris or Brussels, take Eurostar from Ashford, Kent.

When you trevel from Euroster's international terminal in Ashford, Kent, it takes only 2 hrs 15 mins to central Paris and 2 hrs 30 mins to Brussels. It's just a few minutes from the M20 and there's parking for 2000 cars. So why weate time driving to the support when you can fly to Pacis or Brussels by train?







Ginny Dougary: men dining à deux

Mexico and its exotica for lunch travel · 19



SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22 1997



Austin has a letter from Tony Blair in the post at home asking him for help in running the country.

"... together you and I can make it possible for everyone to: Then we spot:

"...if you intend to vote Labour, will you send us fifteen quid..."

A cruel trick. You'd think they'd be more sensitive in the pan-handling unit at Millbank
Towar

I've booked us a holiday. We're off on the 21st of March or the lith of April or the 2nd of May. It's up to John Major. Austin [Mitchell] has been MP for Grimsby for nearly 20 years and, now that there's a distinct possibility of a Labbur victory; local people who don't understand the secret world of Westminster are asking him what ministerial job he'll get, and

rivings

what car. Having "difficult" views on Europe, and a rapidly approaching bus pass make an MP, well, hard to place (unless he's Alan Clark). Austin doesn't plaining his failure, while the phone never rings. So we're off to Death Valley, California.

One of the few perks I get as an MP's wife is 15 first-class return tickets between London and

Waiting for E-Day home every year. On Friday afternoons I head for King's Cross and the Great North

Eastern Railway (InterCity privatised, but still preserving the unique public relations style of old British Rail). Watched by a youthful ticket clerk. I make a bit of a mess filling in my destination on the warrant form. I have been using warrants for 20 years; changing them, spilling coffee on them, even forging. A's signature (in extremis) No one.

(smile brilliantly here) has ever rejected one before.
Well, I'm rejecting it, and you'll have to buy a ticket," barks the triumphant super-

Seventy five quid! Can't make a fuss; the impatient people queueing behind me are almost certainly Grimsby voters beading home. Arrive home to find Austin in

the kitchen. He has large hammer and is crashing up and down on my lovingly restored antique pine table.

"Hello darling, what are you doing? (or something like that), I say. He has lost his car aerial and is crafting a new one from a wire coathanger (and he

Is a ministerial post on the cards? Or will the appalling tie kill off her husband's chances? Linda McDougall

tells the inside story of electioneering on the home front

wonders why he's not ministerial material!).

SATURDAY Bric phones. Eric is Troublemaker in Chief. Sometimes a party member, sometimes not. Head honcho of the Save Britain's Fish" campaign. He's. 70 plus, rides a bicycle, wears a beret and a monocle and has absolutely all our home and office phone numbers. He phones and faxes at any hour of the day and night.

Eric is very worried. He has heard that Tony Blair is going to ban Euro-sceptics like Austin from taking a stand against EMU. Eric has just finished crafting panels for Austin's car, which scream, "Save Britain's fish. Save Britain's pound!" in 5ft-high letters. Will he be able to get away with this; or will Peter Mandelson personally appear on the 15.30 to Cleethorpes to tear them from the car? Say I'm not sure but

will consult A and call back. with the Hull Euro MP Peter Crampton. Another Westmin-

Eric phones again instantly. He is also installing a loudspeaker in the car so that he can shout, "Save Britain's fish. Save Britain's pound. Vote Labour!"

What will Tony Blair have to say about this?Remember all the complaints about Eric sounding like Hitler in previous elections. Suggest panels will have stunning impact and sound is not necessary. Eric extremely cross.

SUNDAY

There is a service on St Andrew's Dock in Hull at noon to remember all the fishermen who have died at sea. The service is very moving. Hardfaced trawlermen weep as we sing, "hear us as we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea", and watch carnations scattered on the water float away to sea. Afterwards I am chatting

ster MP, Stuart Randall, comes up and starts talking to Peter. Suddenly he thrusts a hand out to me and says: "Hello, I don't believe we have ever met." Stare at him in amazement and point out I am Austin's wife and not Peter's. And that he has known me for two decades. Launch into my favourite theory that middle-aged women are, in fact, invisible and that no one ever knows

who I am unless I have Austin

standing by my side. Stuart says his wife feels exactly the

same. Wonder if he recognises

her if he sees her chatting to John Prescott? When we get home Austin spends a couple of hours assembling all the gear he was given on the BBC Style Challenge programme. Dark grey Italian wool suit, grey shirt, discreet grey and white tie, and navy "City gent" overcoat. Very

New Labour, very un-Austin. Ask him why. Says it's for next Wednesday morning when most of the Parliamentary Labour Party have a photo opportunity with Tony Blair.

They all have to turn up in the Shadow Cabinet room, pay five quid and get to pose with the Leader for as long as it takes to take a snap for the election leaflet.

Austin says he is planning to tell Tony about the holiday in Death Valley and see if he asks him not to go. (He wouldn't be so daft, would he?)

MONDAY Not yet broken new year's resolution to give up trying to change Austin. Resolution strongly tested when I walk in the door from work. He is sitting on sofa asking what there is to eat, and wearing the most appalling tie I have ever seen - Baywatch babes rampant. Pamela Anderson just over his heart. Ignore tie. Make supper. Austin goes off to vote, and be on Newsnight. Small soup stain on Geena Lee Nolin.

TUESDAY Six-thirty am. Swimming pool

civil servant woman asks me how I can tolerate being married to man who wears ties like that? She is not joking. Tell her I wonder that myself sometimes. I am not joking.

Tie gets mention on Yester-

day in Parliament. Austin has made an important contribution to last night's debate suggesting Millennium celebrations should be relocated from Greenwich to

Grimsby. Tie appears again in Mat-thew Parris's Times column under "Grimsby or bust", headline.

World in Action producer rings to ask where he could buy a tie like that. Offer to post it to

WEDNESDAY

Tony Blair photo opportunity day. Austin up early assem-bling his Style Challenge kit. He amazes me by suggesting these events have to be taken seriously. Perhaps he really does believe there's a chance for him in New Labour.

Around lunch time I ring to see how it went. Cancelled. It will be rescheduled "in the future".

Well, that's good news then. A few weeks more freedom for us. They can't have a general election when a couple of

Continued on page 2

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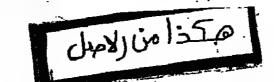
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Your mission, should your way to work, I was intrigued by choose to accept it, is to board a No 13 bus at Finchley Road, London NW2, obtain, by any means necessary, a ticket to take you as far as Oxford Street, and return within three Armour-Night Vision" hours with six bagels, a tube of Oxy-ID, a fully working office-type clock housing a mono CCTV and

cealed in a cigarette lighter. If you take my advice, you will pick up the bagels at Panzer's in St John's Wood on the way back so as to get them as fresh as possible: the zit cream you can buy in Boots at Swiss Cottage. As for the surveillance equipment, well, everyone knows you can get that from Spymaster at Portman Square.

microphone, and a camera con-

For a long time, before I started shopping there regularly on my the grey frontage of Spymaster. In the same way that my local newsagent has "News-Mags-Chocolate-Fags" above the door, so Spymaster has "Counter Surveillance-Survival Equipment-Body

For years, though, I never went in. When I needed, say, a lightweight anti-slab jacket or a Dedal 40 Image Intensifying Rifle Scope I just had to make it myself: I assumed that you needed some sort of cash-and-carry card issued only to 00 agents and occasionally forged by Drax operatives.

Push open their door, which is like any other door on any other shopping street, and you enter another world. "What is this thing garden fizzy drinks can (£15)?" you

#### **SERIOUS SHOPPING**

#### **COUNTER ESPIONAGE**

ask. And a rolling-shouldered man in his mid-20s. most unQ-like, shakes it so that you hear the fizzy drink gurgling inside and then unscrews the top to reveal a secret compartment ideal for the storage of Semtex, microfilm, shark repel-

He shows you the night vision equipment, and, naturally, you want to know all about the headset that you slip on to trace baddies in the dark, but he tells you that those are a bit dated now and hands you a pocketscope (£3,500). This is the smallest second-generation night vision unit on the market. It intensifies available light by a factor of 20,000, is water-resistant



GILES COREN

and will accept any 'C' mount lens... Pay attention, 0071 But you cannot, because in the background there are people trying out disguised in a tie and calculators with hidden transmitters: "Leave it on the table at a board meeting and when you go to the loo you can listen to what they say while you are out of the room."

These people may have been trained in the identifying and disabling of malevolent agents, but what they know about calming paranoiae tendencies could be invisible-inked on the back of an exploding cigar: "If you think you have a problem," says their brochure, "then you probably have." To this end, you can sort yourself out with a telephone tap packed in what looks like a travelling chess set (£1,250). All you

have to do is sneak up on the home of the intended victim, cut the phone line, reconnect it using two small crocodile clips, and you're away. Unless, of course, said victim has purchased a scrambler (£500) or a voice changer (£70), which will make him sound like Metal Mickey and never hold up

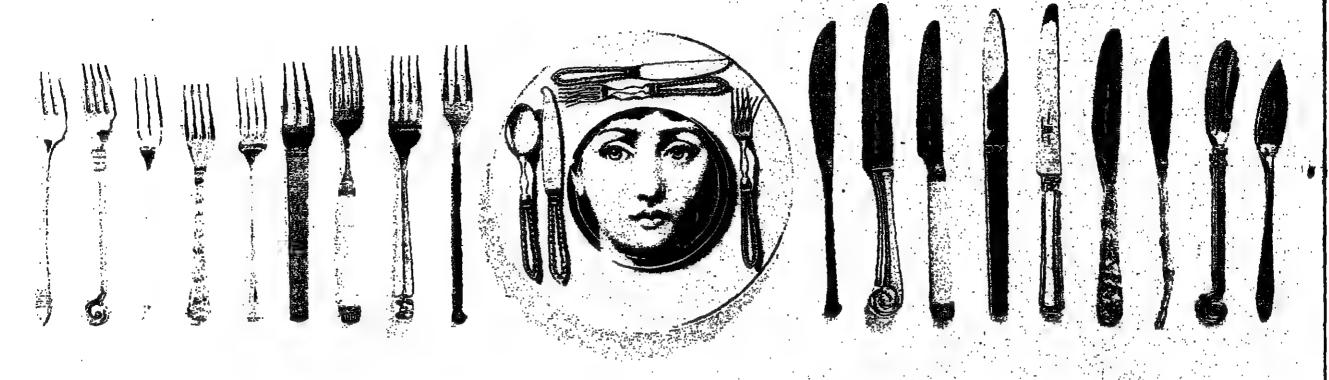
f you don't think you can cope with the rigours of espionage yourself, they know a man who can: "Should you suspect that you have an information 'leak' we have a highly trained counter-,

My only worry is that the man who comes to mend the leak will be more like a plumber than a double agent a man who appears dinner jacket, and then says Dear, dear. If only you'd called earlier. Best thing is to chuck it out and get a new one. Milk and two sugars if you're asking."

Much better to pick up a copy of Sniper/Counter Sniper, or How to Disappear Completely, and DIY. Then you will need some camouflage cream, a commando wire saw, some self-heating food and jungle survival pack, and you should be able to sneak off the bus with your bagels and acre remedy concealed in the Celltrack mobile phone interceptor - it is marked as a "restricted user product law enforcement, military, and gov-ernment agencies only" - but you have clearance at the highest level.

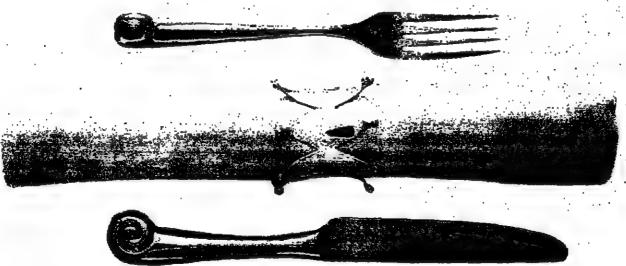
Tell them we sent you. This column will self-destruct in ten seconds...

# Cutting edge of designer cutlery



MAIN PICTURE: 1 Simple fish-head stainless steel cuttery; £3.95 for a teaspoon, £7.95 for a knife, from the Conran Shop, Michelin House, 81 Fulham Road, SW3 6RD (0171-589 7401). 2 Chunky cutlery with pewter handles "Inspired by the new South Africa", by Carrol Boyes (range includes heart, wave and Aries designs), £26-£80, from Carrie Bateman at Design Divine; available by mail order (0181-289 5556). 3 Twig-handled, silver-plated and brass cutlery; £4.50 for a teaspoon £12.50 for a knife, from the Conran Shop, as above. 4 Silver-plated cutiery with beaten design on handle, by Maryse Soxer at Chez 7LO (0171-245 9493) 5 First made in the mid-1930s "Harley" Sheffield stainless steel with a classic double reverse thread detail in the handle, seven-place single place setting £56 85 (in silver-plate £107.85), from Master Cutler, 3 Shepherd Street, Maytair, W1Y 74N (0114-272 1504)

RIGHT: "Ammonite" stainless steel cutiery designed by Robert Welch, as before Silver Jester napkin ring, £64, by Mila Tanya Griebel (0171-328 8680). Cream damask napkin (24in), £22 each, or £130 for six, from the Irish Linen Company, 35-36 Burlington Arcade, W1 FOR THE true gourmet, it's not only what you eat, but what you eat it with. Fortunately, etiquette no longer dictates a vast canteen of cutlery, but there's nothing more dismal than tucking into your meal with beaten-up knives and forks. Designers are now turning their attention to cutlery.



MAIN PICTURE: 8 For label-conscious diners, Hermes' new range of stainless steel cutlery is much heavier and larger than most sets on sale; £25 for a fork, £40 for a knife, from Hermes, 179 Sloane Street London SW1 (0171-823 1014), 7 Cream "Carthage" cuttery with nylon handles and engraved old-silver-look detail ends, dishwasher safe; sech piece £8.25, from Dickins & Jones At Home, 224-244 Ragent Street, W1A 10B (0171-734 7070), 8 "Ammonite" stainless steel cuttery designed by Robert Welch, a contemporary version, with hollow handles, of the traditional pistol-grip handle design popular since the mid-18th century; six seven-piece place settings, £300, from Robert Weich; Studio Shop, Lower High Street, Chipping Campdan, Gloucestershire GL55 6DY; svallable by mail order (01386 840522). 9 Iron Age stainless steel cuttery, six-piece place setting £75, by Maryee Boxer from Chez Joseph, 28 Sloane Street,

CENTREPIECE: Fornasetti-designed plate, £33.70, from Rosenthal Studio House, 137 Regent Street, W1 (0171-734 3076).

Photographa: Des Jenson Styling: Caroline Griffithe



Cheese the immaculate Member for Great Grimsby, right

#### Continued from page 1 hundred Labour MPs haven't got a photograph of themselves taken with their leader.

Austin phones me to say he is very ill. When I arrive home at our house in Halifax midevening, he is wrapped in a blanket on the sofa writing his Anti Europe, Anti EMU tand no doubt soon to be banned) election manifesto, and watching old movies on Sky. "What's for tea?" he asks between bouts of coughs and

The kitchen is in chaos. Austin has been shopping. something which only happens when an election looms and he wants everyone to know how involved in the community he is. (You'll never guess who I saw in the supermarket today...)

SATURDAY

Surprisingly, Austin still alive. but refusing to take phone calls, particularly from Eric. Fax arrives from Eric. He absolutely must my fitting the panels on the car today.

I set out for Eric's. He lives behind Blundell Park, the football stadium. The panels are made of wood. They are about 10ft long and 4ft high.

#### 6 Austin suggests he and Tony should be photographed shaking hands. Art director says no. This will look like they've just met 9

They are painted bright scar-let and weigh a ton. The idea is to use them as a superstructure. A ferocious system of metal clamps will attach them to the car roof. Eric and I stumble into the road with one and hoist it aloft. The message is in bright yellow:

AUSTIN SAYS: SAVE BRITAIN'S FISH SAVE BRITAIN'S POUND!

Passing Grimsby Town fans gawp in disbelief. Eric mutters and adjusts clamps. He asks me to get into the car. open the sunroof, and stand on the driver's seat to test whether Austin will be visible above the superstructure. Believe it or not, I do this, and can just see over the top if I stand on my toes.

Back to London and the biggest day in Austin's calendar. The annual Lords and Commons photographic exhibition. Mrs Bottomley has been invited to open the show. Like tension and giggles a lot. She speaks warmly of her talented colleagues and is presented with a video stills camera by the Kodak sponsor. Then she says mysteriously: "Many people here will know that I am married to a shopaholic, so this will be very useful." Slightly hysterical laughter

from those in the know. I am puzzled. Does this mean that she will take stills of all husband Peter's purchases to provide evidence for the Parliamentary tax inspectors in Cardiff?

WEDNESDAY

Austin is over the moon. The Independent has put one of his photos from the exhibition on its front page. He positively skips out of the door on his way to his long-awaited photo op with The Leader. He is going to tell Tony about our holidays plans. He is going to explain just why he needs to tell the truth about EMU in Grimsby, and why he won't be on Europe in his campaign

High moon in the Shadow Cabinet room. Tony Blair is ready and waiting. The Mem-ber for Great Grimsby, immaculate in his Style Challenge outfit, burbles humorously that The Leader's suit is a bit creased. Leader consults suit doctors. Should he change? They think not.

Eager to get something right. A suggests he and Tony should be photographed shaking hands. Art director says no. This will look like they've just met. Nervous laughs all round. Austin opens his mouth to speak, but no words will come.

The Leader smiles his big Blair smile and holds out his hand. Three handshakes, three frames of film, and it's all over.

There is now a long queue of expectant MPs laden down with props from their constituencies, brought to add a "local" feel to their election

literature. Hugh Bayley clutches a glossy brochure from York council. Perhaps he is going to ask The Leader to bless it?

FRIDAY

Because the election is so close. family life is on hold. I head straight for Grimsby on Fridays. I arrive in the mayor's parlour, Cleethorpes, for the local authority dinner in honour of its two MPs, Austin and the Tory Michael Brown, Everyone knows this will be the last official event before the election, so there's an end-of-

term atmosphere. Lisa, the photographer from the Grimsby Evening Tele-graph, arrives and takes a shot of us all standing in a line

and grinning dementedly. As soon as the speeches are over we belt off to Leeds for a This is Your Life on TV presenter Richard Whiteley, one of our oldest friends. Call from Eric on mobile. What did Tony Blair say about the panels for the car? Say I am not sure A and The Leader got round to this topic in their farreaching discussion, but will

consult and get back to him. Get home at midnight and in a moment of madness offer to drive Austin, who looks exhausted, back to Grimsby for his Saturday surgery in six hours' time. He perks up and says that while I'm there I can visit Eric and sort something

out about the panels. After surgery we head for Immingham for a photo opportunity for Shona McIsaac the Labour candidate for Cleethorpes. Lisa from the Telegraph (does she never get any time off?) arranges the group, including Austin, all dressed in sweaters and weekend trousers. Shona, the perfect Labour woman candidate

in a smart, fitted orange jacket, sbort skirt and highheeled shoes, perches nervously smiling on the edge of frame. Wonder how many

votes this will land? I mooch off to sit in the car, and get shouted at by Austin when he returns. "This is the pre-election period you know. People might think we've had a row if you bugger

Dear John Major, Let's have the election very soon. Please. They need me back at the office...

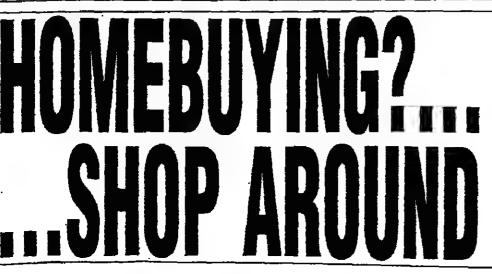




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OLYMPIA - MARCH 7/8/9 Evening Standard

#### shopping ·

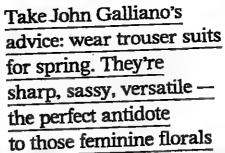
# suitable girl







RIGHT: Navy three-button jacket, £105; matching trousers, £43, Sisley, selected Benetton branches (0161-929 9259). Blue stretch boob tube, £25, No Such Soul, Hype DF (0171-937 7835). Beige thong kitten-heel shoes, £300, Jimmy Choo, to order (0171-235 6008)





(01622 664032)

RIGHT: Brown moc-croc jacket, £79; matching trousers, £45, Kookal, 123 High Street Kensington, London WB (0171-937 4411) sandals, £300,

Jimmy Choo, made to order (0171-235 6008)

Alex Babaky

The flipside to the ultra-feminine floral and ruffle looks around at the moment are the more sober masculine styles of women's trouser suits. Sharp and sassy, they are ideal for work or play and can be adapted for eveningwear. At work or pray and can be adapted to eveningwear.

At work, simple, good quality T-shirts or sharp, crisp-collared blouses can be worn beneath the jacket, but do not wear cravats or ties. These were big on the catwalks this season but avoid them. As the Savile Row

catwalks this season but avoid them. As the Savile Row tailor Richard James puts it: "Any woman wearing a tie looks silly — even the Princess of Wales."

At formal events, such as a company cocktail party. Christian Dior's maverick designer John Galliano is all for a trouser suit, saying: "A bias-cut suit can look both formal and elegant." When asked about his preference for skirts or trousers, he said: "Trouser suits are the modern choice for spring."

A quick change from stiff shirt to a lace tamisole, and out of your practical loafers into simple kittenheels, can transform a day suit into evening effortlessly.

On more casual occasions, the look can be toned down with a simple, stripey, fine-knit singlet, a bra-top or a boob-tube. The more adventurous could opt to wear nothing underneath a well-lined, high-cut jacket

or low-cut top.

A hint of lace on the edge of a scooped top can lift an outfit if peeking from beneath the jacket in a contrast outfit if peeking from beneath being under chocolate. colour — light blue under navy; beige under chocolate.

Fine crepes and wools can soften an outfit, and will keep you cool. New technology textiles, such as breathable synthetic mixes and high-sheen plastics, are youthful and add a modern edge to even the most elegate of chales.

classic of styles. When it comes to jacket buttonings, there are no rules. Double-breasted is back but cut in softer lines, three and two-button high fastenings cover well, and a new one-button look is simple and clean.

The most important part of the suit, the trousers, tend to be slim-legged this year and, when worn with a longline jacket, are flattering to most figures. Slight bootleg kick flares can be found but will soon date. Look out for suits that come with a matching skirt for extra versatility and longer wearability.

HEATH BROWN











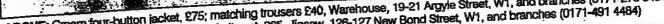
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ABOVE: Black suede/patent wedge, £39.99, Office, 57 Neel Street, WC2, (meit order, 0181-838 4447)

WITH their Seventies image, wedge-heeled shoes are making a comeback with new versions for the Ninetics. These three are among the best.

#### GARDEN ANSWERS



STEPHEN ANDERTON

My carrots and pars-nips grow 2in-3in. then divide in up to six ways. What's the remedy? E. Gore-Squires, Sudbury, Suffolk.

A Heavy or compacted or even waterlogged soils are the cause of this. Culitivate the soil well, adding a lot of organic matter, but not nitrogen-rich composts which can make matiers worse.

Two years ago I had my garden relaid as an "easy-care" scree garden with a membrane under the stone. Since then, horse tails have pushed through a large area. I have used Roundup to kill it, but more keeps appearing. How do I eradicate the weed? — Mrs L. Cregar, Watford, Hert-

A Geotextile mem-branes, designed to let water through but discourage weeds, work well but cannot suppress tough, pernicious weeds such as horse tail. Scree gardens, rockeries or any other new plantings, with or without a membrane, should never be attempted before all pernicious weeds have been eradicated. You have no choice now but to persist with the weed-killing until the site is clean. If you knew the horse tail was present. and told your contractor so. and were advised that the membrane would suppress it, you may have a case against him. See what he

Many garden centres have only a limited range of dahlia tubers and no list. Can you recom-mend specialist dahlla owers who have a full list? - R.C. Agombar, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

A i am tempted to say that things are improving at garden centres on the dahlia front. As the plant becomes fashionable again the range of cultivars for sale in pre-packs grows, too, though they are mostly in the dwarf, bedding end of the range. You can even buy black and scarlet Bishop of Liandaff off the peg now. For a dahlia nursery, try Halls of Heddon, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Newcastle upon Tyne NEI5 QJS (01661 852445), or Oscroft's Dahlias, Sprotborough Road, Doncaster DN5 8BE (01302 785026). When looking for suppliers of a particular kind of plant, from dahlias

and delphiniums, air plants and alpines, to topiary and wild flowers, a usefu source of infromation is The Gardener's Yearbook, published by Macmillan for the Royal Horticultural Society at £14.99, from bookshops.

My 3ft-tall, 60-year old yew hedge is dy ing on one side, possibly because it is close to a building and is deprived of sun, I plan to cut it down low and start again from the bottom up. The trunks are thick and healthy, but I am not sure exactly how low to cut them, and when. To help, I shall feed it with dried blood and compost, unless you can think of anything better. — Sir Clive Rose, Sudbury, Suffolk.

A I would be reluctant to cut down strong. healthy trunks of that age. And there is no real need to. Instead, cut off all the back of the hedge to leave the bare vertical trunks on that one side. The cutting will be invisible from the front, but will let enough light in to regenerate a new back. Your feeding recipe is ideal, except that you should water copiously. Could it be that drought in the rain shadow of a wall is part of the hedge's problem?

My 9ft-beech hedge was planted 20 years ago as a windbreak and to subdivide the garden. It has been that height for half its life. Would it be ssible to reduce its height by, say, 5ft — even over several years — with-out endangering it? — A.J. Easterbrook, Bromley,

You can certainly cut it down to 4ft. Do it this month, and cut to a height which allows for some top regrowth before reaching the new final height. It will be a shock, water it well. If you wish to reduce the width too, give it a couple of years to recover before reducing the sides, one at a time. Such large cuts into the central leader of a tree can lead to longterm rots which reduce the overall life of the hedge. But it is still worth doing.

 Readers should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend. The Times, I Pennington St, London El 9XN. We regret that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility." also regrets that any nsibility. The Times



# Potty ideas for your window

Are you a Mayfair minimalist or the cottage garden type? Even in dull

window box say about you? Are you a stylish Mayfair type, with ivy, clipped box balls and white cyclamen decorating the front of your house? A local worthy, sporting a selection of dwarf conifers and heathers? A devilmay-care sort, whose window box resounds with clashing architectural minimalist, with stark structural pyramid-shaped box trees? Or is your style sweet and cosy with a deft mixture of blues and vellows of early daffs, hyacinths, primulas and Iris reticulata? Or. again, the window box announcing: "I'm very busy but managed to find these primu-

pressed me when I lived in

las at the corner shop?" All the styles have their merits, because they strut their stuff at this time of year when gardens can look dismal. A splash of colour at the front of a house entertains the eye and cheers the soul. The winter display that im-

EN YOUR GARDEN WITH THIS DELIGHTFUL COLLECTION

London was on the windowsill of a flat opposite. Instead of a window box, there were a series of flower pots of various sizes, none of them fancy. growing plants rarely associared with window plantings.

مِكذا من رلامل

responsible. Geoff Hewitt, a garden designer. (His real name is James Hewitt, but he prefers Geoff for obvious reasons.) His windowsill displays the kind of unusual plants that his clients refuse to accept; they want something elegant and restrained. The display is to restraint what a Russian vine is to slow growth.

own pot: an exotic rosette of spikey, lance-shaped leaves from Agave americana; the more architectural drama from the greeny-yellow leaves Phormium 'Yellow Wave': lower-level architectural shapes from a house leek, sempervivum: a splash of colour from the cabbage Stockleys Red: sunny bunercup-like flowers of the winter aconite Eranthis hyemalis:

Each of his plants lives in its

winter months your window box can say a lot about you, says Jane Owen reddish-green foliage of wood spurge, Euphorbia amygdalvar. robbiae; snowdrops; beautifully cupped, green flowers of Helleborus viridus, bevender, cheery

yellow of the dwarf Narcissus hairy, trailing Thymus serpyilum; and a pale rosette of . hairy leaves made by a biennial verbascum, which will later throw up a great fury spike

dotted with yellow flowers, albeit much shorter, because - of its pot-bound roots, than the normal 8ft-10ft plant it would otherwise achie

This is the kind of planting many people find too adventurous. Others worry about classically good-looking dis-plays is straight forward: the bay, box, ivy, green-and-white look that can manage for two

#### WEEKEND IPS

■ Encourage dormant fuchsias and pelargoniums into growth with a sparing application of water. Plant dry begonia tubers in cool, moist seed compost, to initiate root growth.

Feed apples, pears and plum trees with nitrogen and potash fertiliser. Prume stone fruit trees as growth begins.

Plant Jerusalem artichokes om deep. Greengrocer's tubers are perfectly good but, for less knobbly tubers and easier peling, plant a reliable named variety from a

Shallots may be planted now. Check bedding wallflowers for wind rock, and ensure

that they are all firm in the ground. Divide early-leafing perennials, such as pulmonarias

have to be closely planted for the best effect. "I don't hesitate to move the pots about frequently and I take out any plant as soon as it is past its best. What I aim for at all times is a structure, body and interest. But you have to keep the pots simple or they start to compete with the plants," says Mr Hewitt who came to Britain in 1987 after two years on a flower farm in

Mr Hewitt's selection of

plants need more tending and

the pots have to be moved

about as each plant reaches its

climax; as one plant passes its

best it can be replaced in an

instant. When part of a win-

dow box display goes over it

has to be dug into, disrupting

neighbouring plants which

his native Tasmania and worked for a while at the London nursery Cliftons, and then as a gardener at a country house before setting up his garden design firm. He warns against using small pots or mixing the

own pots, Mr Hewitt uses multi-purpose compost, replaced after each season. Using flower pots for winor three months without any

dowsills is an art mastered on much of continental Europe. Think of the scent from basil plants sitting in Italian kitchen windows, where the other favourite, geranium, loll hody against the window surround Think of the great cascades of white geraniums from pots on French windowsills. Here, at this time of year, pot displays

demand more imagination. Every plant can be given its own soil mix so that acid lovers can mingle happily with acid haters, and the only thing every container needs is water-retaining granules for the summer, which can be bought from any garden centre, and some appropriate slow-release fertiliser. Nutrients leach out faster in containers than in beds and, now that 6X organic fertiliser comes in non-smelly pellet form, a few of the pellets of this on the pots of hungry plants, such as pansies, will help sustain flowering and ward off disease and pest attack.

# Begonias Buy three packs for the price of two

readers are given the opportunity to buy three different varieties of begonias at just £5.99 per pack of 12 - or all three packs for only £11.98.

saving £5.99. All packs contain mixed colours. Double Begonias: enormous flowers up to 4in across, ideal for mass bedding, patio tubs

Finged Begonias vigorous and free flow-borders, pots and hanging baskets. Times

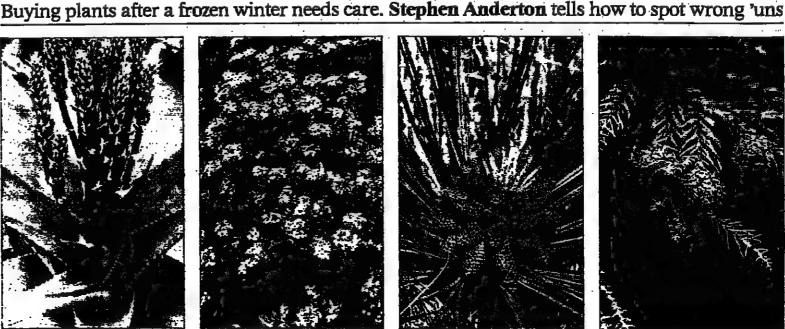
Fringed Begonias vigorous and free flow-ering with a height of 10in, these large flowers have fringed edges and look good in flower beds, borders, window-boxes and patio tubs.

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#### The Times Begonias Offer

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Left to right: the rosette Aloe suarezensis, corkscrewing Vibernum tinus and Pinus radiata, and the conifer Cryptomeria japonica Elegans

The best place for the roots of any plant when it is bitterly cold is underground. But how do you tell when a plant has suffered damage from being frozen in its pot? And how can you tell if it is dead?

During last month's cold weather I visited a garden centre in Cambridge. where I was pleased to see netting erected over the banks of potted plants outdoors to keep the worst of the cold off them, as well as the snow.

In biner weather, pots are best grouped close together - pot-thick, as nurserymen call it - to reduce the chill to their roots. And, the nearer to the ground the better: plants on any kind on a raised bench are going to get colder than those on the ground. Sometimes it is hard to tell if a plant is alive or dead when you buy it. Coni-

fers, whose foliage has been browned,

should be avoided. The chances are

that they have been burned by the cold

or wind when unable to draw moisture

from a frozen rootball. Conifers are not

# Dead giveaways for sick plants

only become brown all over, sometimes in a few days, when the weather begins to warm up in spring. Yew, especially, has a habit of saving its

death rattle until April or May. Bronzing is another matter. There are confers, such as the feathery Croptomeria japonica Elegans, whose foliage turns a plummy purple or bronze in cold weather. This is entirely natural and has a measure of attraction. Other conifers, including yew, may show purpling of the leading shoots. But it is brownness which is to

When buying an evergreen, it's wise

to turn it out of its pot to check the roots. The tips should be white and healthy, and have a good grip on the compost. Plants whose roots have spiralled at the bottom of the pot have been potted for too long anyway. Buy them if you must, but they will require teasing out of the corkscrew and spreading out in the planting hole. Sometimes this is impossible, and root pruning is the only answer.

Corkscrewing of roots is less important on some evergreens than others. Broad-leafed evergreens, such as Viburnum tinus and laurel, have fibrous roots and a dome-shaped canopy, and can overcome a congested rootball by

themselves in time. But in a fastgrowing shelter tree, such as Pinus radiata, corkscrew roots should be avoided at all costs. They need efficient horizontal roots to hold themselves up and take the force of the wind. Staking a pine with a corkscrewed root is only putting off the evil day when it blows down or hurches over.

When buying herbaceous plants after a freeze, look for swelling bads in the crown of the plant, and be suspicious of plants in leaf but in waterlogged compost they outful to be using that water if the plant is alive. Sour, stinking compost is a sure sign

of dead roots. Rosette plants; with a single central root like a dandelion, are prone to rot away in wet and cold. Sometimes the rosette of foliage remains firm when the roots have rotted off at the neck. So pull gently to see if the rosette has a firm hold in the pot. If it is going to lift off like a mob-cap, it is better to know

before you buy and get it home.

WR GARDE MISLEMS AR

에는 아이 보는 그는 다

# Grow your own oasis

urprisingly perhaps, there are palm trees we can grow perfectly well in Britain. Just a few will thrive and offer us that extraordinary, flamboyant foliage.

Botanically, palms are nearer to orchids and lilies than any of our native trees. There are three thousand kinds of palm, and they grow in all kinds of habitats. .

Picture television footage of hurricane Floosie ripping through the Caribbean, coconut pains bent almost double in the torrents of wind and rain. Then picture the fan palm Trachycarpus in a Himalayan woodland at 8,000 feet, covered in snow from November to March. This has to be the one we are interested in.

Then picture Martin Gibbons. palm collector, in a gold-mining ghost town, deep in the Sudan and the Nubian desert, finding the Argun palm, whose fruits were buried in ancient Egyptian tombs, and which has not been recorded in the wild since 1907. This man is determined we should enjoy hardy palms more in Britain, and I have

Palms have become a way of life for Martin Gibbons. After school he spent three years working in Australia, and visited Singapore Botanic Garden, which is known for the range of its different palms.

He came home, found jobs in a supermarket then department store sales, was made redundant, and then thought "I should be growing palms". So he did. And sold them. The house was full of them - on the stairs, in the bath, the window ledges, everywhere. He has had his present business. The Palm Centre, in East Sheen not far from Kew Gardens, for eight years. It is a thriving if small concern, but some things don't change. Every inch of the premises is palm-girt. Indoor palms line the stairs to the office, and the old kitchen serves as a potting shed. At the back are polytunnels of rampant palmery.
"I don't grow any plants I don't

like. I have tree ferms, and bananas oh and cycads and bamboos. And palms. Mostly palms." The trouble with palms — like any big group of closely related plants - is that together in rows, as young Palm trees can do surprisingly well in British weather, says Stephen Anderton

PALM OFFER

plants, they start to look the same. Except perhaps that they obviously divide into fair palms and feather

pains, by the leaf shape.
But they are all individuals to Martin Gibbons. Last year he spent four months travelling the world looking at pains, collecting seed, and taking photographs. His first book, Identifying Pains, has sold in astonishing numbers and has even been translated into Spanish. His customers, as well as home gardeners, include hotels, a 200, aviaries, swimming pools and a Gulf State ruler. Coals to Newcastle, maybe, but it proves he is a specialist. But only half of whathe sells is indoor palms; the other half goes into British gardens.

We talked about that hardlest of

Trachycarpus fortunei is on offer at £19.95

Trachycarpus fortunei, which I had grown successfully in Northumberland. Mine was loft tall, and jammed into a small raised bed in a sheltered southeast-facing corner. Gibbons emphasised the need for warmth and shelter, so those huge fan shaped leaves are not ragged by wind. "But the root system is actually quite small. They are very easy to transplant."

. I asked how fast they grow (I had only known mine as an oldie). "As much as a foot a year if they are well fed," said Globons, "but they grow for several years before they start to develop a trunk. The crown-builds up for 6-8 years in the ground, then it starts to shoot up. Buying a plant which is already a

> The Times, the hardy pain. Trachycarp

envives the col

ready for planting outside now, at

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first 4-5 years' waiting. They need plenty of food and water to really get them moving." That makes sense. If a palm can only have one bud, it might as well be a big one.

He also recommends tying up the fronds of paints in bitterly cold or snowy periods. Just pull up the leaves and bundle them together with string, and wrap them with sacking or polythene. Ice in the soon as the weather improves, the wraps can come off again." And that makes sense too; if a plant only has one bud and you lose it, then that plant has had it.

And the best hardy palms for a British garden? Trachycarpus fortunei, the Chusan palm, came first, It's the toughest. Second was Trachycarpus wagnerianus, which has stiffer fans is less prone to wind damage, and is good in less sheltered gardens. The leaves are

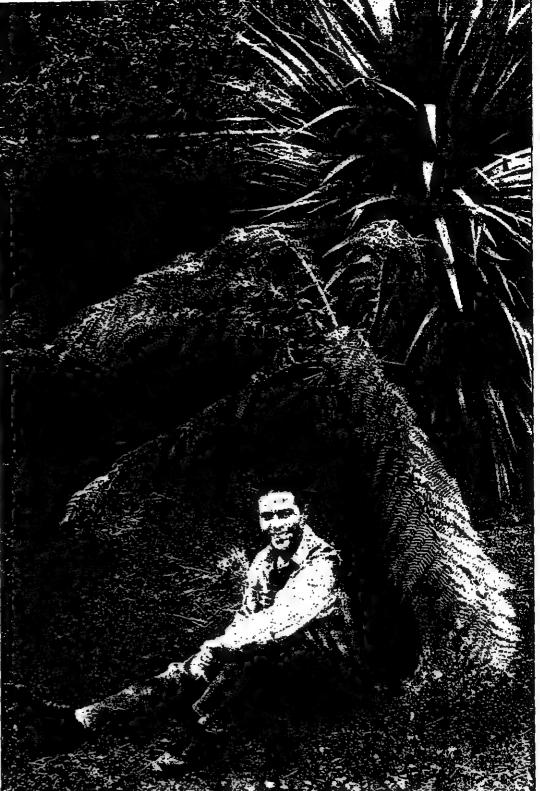
deeply cut, like a peacock's tail.

Third came Trackycarpus sikkimensis. It does not have the hairy trunk of the Chusan palm, but it has bigger leaves and is extremely fast growing. It requires wind

ourth is the Mediterranean fan palm, Chamaerops humilis. This, unusually, is make a hundle of stems up to 6-8ft in old age. You can clean these up to make a multi-stemmed plant if you like to see the trunks. Martin form. Cerifera, from the high Atlas mountains of Morocco, which has a steely grey, almost blue white tinge to the foliage.

And lastly? "There would have to be one feather paim, as all the others are fans," It was Butia capitata, the jelly (as in American jam) paim, slow to grow, but full of

Plant a few if you have space. Plant a jungle, as Nick Sharp has done in his sunny but windy garden near Derby. He has five Chusan paims, two Chamaerops, a Butia, and is even trying the Brazilian palm, Trithrinax acanthocoma, which is another fan palm. "A few more years, and it will



Barbados? No Derbyshire: Nick Sharp sits against an Australian tree fern in his garden

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In our March issue, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of BBC Radio 4's Gardeners' Question Time, with a free 32page magazine. In it, the present chairman, Eric Robson, traces the history of the show. And members of the team answer your 101

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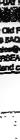
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Corsham Court, by Capability Brown and Humphrey Repton

# Castle with a carpet of snowdrops

OPEN THIS WEEKEND

Torsham Court. Corsham. Wiltshire (01249 701610).

On A4. four miles west of Chippenham. Open Jan-Mar. Sat-Sun, 2-4.30pm; Apr-Oct. daily except Mon (open Bank hol). Ham-5.30pm, £2, children £1.

This is a garden of note, having been created by Capability Brown and his successor, Humphrey Repton, Corsham was also one of the projects where Brown was responsible for the house: he carried out extensive alterations and additions to the Elizabethan original, which survives facing the entrance courtyard. Brown's work was followed by further architectural changes, but the impressive picture gallery he designed contin-

ues to display one of England's foremost picture collections. Set in parkland to the east of the house is the lake that Brown planned, but never executed, and Repton carried out. To one side, however, is Corsham's gem, the Gothic bathhouse that Brown designed and built, and which ranks among the elite of English garden buildings.

Chirk Castle gardens. Chirk. Wrexbam, north Wales (01691 777701).

Off A.5 west of Chirk, eight miles north of Oswestry. Open today and tomorrow, noon-4pm (last admission 3.30pm). Then Mar 26-Sept 28, daily except Mon and Tues (open Bank hols). Oct. Sat-Sun, Ham-opm



(last admission 4.30pm). Feb weekends £1. children 50p. Later, £2.20, children £1.10.

The great Marches castle, perched on a hill, was clearly built for defence rather than comfort. It is only since the 18th century that its surroundings have been softened with parkland and gardens, whose most impressive decorative feature greets you at the entrance - a superb wrought iron screen and gates made in the 18th century by the Davies blacksmith brothers. From the lawn to one side of the castle, an opening in great, old yew hedges beckons to a long, grassy walk which is the heart of the garden. At the far end, a terrace presents spectacular views over the

English border. At this time of year, the feature is the number of snowdrops here and in the large

Wolterton Purk Erpingham. Norfolk (01263 584175).

مِكذا من رلامل

Two miles north of Aylsham, via A.140. Open daily all year, 9am-5pm. Car park £2.

Wolterton, on a crisp winter or early spring day, exemplifies the spaciousness of the 18th-century parks in Norfolk, cradle of Engiand's agricultural revolution at that time. It is a place to walk and think back to the 1730s, when the elegant house was built by Horatio Walpole whose brother, Sir Robert, had recently completed work at

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Houghton Hall across the county. The present Lord Walpole is carrying out restoration. A ruined church tower provides a focal point for walks through the park, as well as an attractive note that would have certainly met the approval of Wolterton's original owner. Mag-nificent spreading oak trees add natural scale to the enormous park, towards which the house faces over suitably extensive lake. The garden close to the house is open on selected days in summer (telephone for details), but Lord Walpole's main home nearby. Mannington Hall, is even more worthy of a

summer visit for its outstanding

collection of roses.



GEORGE PLUMPTRE Wolterton Park, Erpingham, has fine oaks and an impressive lake



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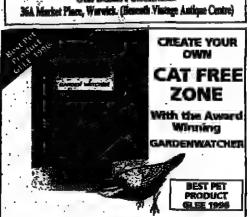
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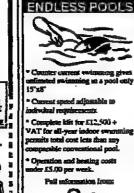
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Pye Corner's traditional frontage hides interior flights of fancy

# The house at Pye Corner

The mullioned windows of this Cotswold home suggest a country idyll but it's not all chintz inside

riving through the Cots-wold village of Broad-way, even the most seasoned normad should feel a sense of homecoming, even if the "home" in question is one of childhood fancy, Joanna Trollope, car ads and Sunday night television murder mysteries.

Once named the "showcase village of England", Broadway boasts the usual table-mat scenes: golden stone, leaded windows, rambling hills and peaceful, walled gardens.

The Worcestershire village is best known by the older generation as the home of the late car-cracy parliamentarian Sir Gerald Nabarro, and by younger couples for the Lygon Arms Hotel: the perfect venue for weekend breaks and discreet affairs.

At first sight, the House at Pye Corner conforms to this idyl, transporting you to a fictional past where small boys wear horn-rimmed speciacles, scrump for apples and eat steaming pies: a time when village teasings with jangly doors serve buns from doily-lined cake stands, and homble country folk hold hands and sing

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TREE

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carols around the tree. Pye Corner sits on the edge of the village, on what is thought to be the original Broadway. Believed to date from the 17th and late 18th century, the house is approached by a sweeping driveway leading to a courtyard and side entrance:

Peering through the stone-mul-lioned windows from outside, welcoming wood fires burn in the grates, casting a wonderful orange ight on chamiered and stopped beams. Once inside heavy oak doors scream to be hid behind, and cold quarry tiles insist that you remember your slippers.

The previous owner, the former managing director of Endsleigh Insurance, died last year. He had definite ideas about resumation and redecoration, and on closer inspec-tion his personal southes break with the chocolate-box idyll. Pye Corner is about as far from

an urban interior design as you can go, crammed full of ichosyneracles (cat engravings on the inglenook, an amous four-poster positioned next to a 1970s laminated table). It is fair to say that many of the previous owner's flights of fancy-are aesthetic no-nos. Walking into

the music room from the tradition-

ally beamed hall is like discovering. Top Shop in the basement of Harvey Nichols. Restored by Chris-

topher Boulter, muralist to the

stars, painted panels tell the story of Offenbach's La Belle Héléne. A painterly slide show charts the life of Helen of Troy, from The Invocation to Venus and The Seduction through to The Judgement. The smudged faces of women with the vital statistics of outsized. Sindydolls smile wearily from the walls. On the pointed ceiling unfairly well-endowed cherubs wink as giltheavy inirrors reflect the lavish trompe d'oeil. The speciacle is enough to make the most dedicated

voyeur reach for the Artex. More in keeping is the fine working kitchen along the hall with traditional terracotta tiled flooring. A gas-fired Aga provides focus, warmth and the promise of hotpots and rice pudding. The previous

owner was a compulsive pickler and the pantry is piled high with pots and bell jars ready to preserve irait and vegetables from the garden. The breakfast room has built-in antique cabinets for ample storage and the dining room is spacious and smart with polished wood floors and an inglenook

The drawing room, at the back of the house, has wall timbers, a builtin window seat and a french door to the terrace which looks out over the garden. An open stone fireplace carries a plaster mould of its maker (a local builder who has entered village lore). His full face, pipe and flat cap jut out from the stone

Upstairs there are six bedrooms

and three bathrooms. The master bedroom has been recently redecorated. The wallpaper and peagreen paintwork was not to my taste, but it is a good size, with beautiful views of the orchard and the rolling Cotswold hills.

A smaller, darker bedroom at the back of the house has a minstrel's gallery, accessible only by ladder; the first place to check when playing hide-and-seek.

ye Corner has staggering potential. The spacious attics in the eaves cry out to be made into studios. workshops or teenagers' bedrooms. The stables and outbuildings have lain idle for years. To the side of the house lie empty greenhouses and

an intriguing wood store which looks like a hybrid mix of Canadian log cabin and well-built Wendy

The two-and-a-half-acre garden is a mishmash of traditional Cotswold and oriental fantasy. Wellkept lawns at the front hint that the gardens have been lovingly restored to their former glory, with bursting flower beds and finely pruned topiary. Yet a half-finished balustrade cuts through the green at the back, signifying the start of the ambitious Japanese-style sunken garden, which reminded me of something Norris McWhirter might have knocked up, complete

with ornamental water plants, bridge and fountain. At the back a productive vegetaHOUSE OF THE WEEK

Pye House Comer, Broadway ● Price: £700,000 Shopping: Felicity Kendal it, with greens in the vegetable garden and fruit in the orchard, or visit the local farm shop for pickled beetroot, separated yoghurt and warm eggs. Tuesday is market day in Moreton-in-Marsh. Cheltenham or Stratford to satisfy urban needs. Travel: Main line rail service from Moreton-in-Marsh (eight miles) to London taking 11/2 hours. There is a local taxi company in the village. Entertainment: Horseracing at Cheltenham and Worcester, sip brandy at North Cotswolds hunt meets, polo at Cirencester Park and golf at Broadway. Theatres at Stratford, Cheltenham and

Oxford.



. The chocolate-box image is dispensed with in the music room, where murals tell the story of Offenbach's La Belle Hélène and cherubs adorn the ceiling. Above: the hallway

ble and flower garden with a peach arch, fruit canes, strawberry, asparagus and vegetable beds.

The heated swimming pool is well secluded, perfect for weekend parties. Change in the summerhouse, bring out the sun-loungers. shake up some large Martinis and duck and dive in the natural spring water, pumped up from the well.

On the way home, I thought about the dovecote twinkling in the winter sun and developed an urge to load up my imaginary Volvo with family and friends, return to Pye Corner with gloves and apron and start pruning.

ALEX O'CONNELL Agents: Hamptons in Broadway

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### Angie Smith enjoys being in a time

warp - her flat is a museum of Biba memorabilia, down to the coffee mugs

Harring Angle Smith's flat in Bethnal Green is a bit like stepping into a film set for The Avengers with a few props from George and Mildred. Angie is tall and slim with jet-black hair, and usually wears heavy black eye make up and striking, original bibs clothes.

My work is not particularly creative so I tend to take out. my artistic tendencies on my flar," says Angie. The late Sixties and early Seventies were the best times of my life. This was a really affluent

period, the time enter fairting friends and when Playboy was a big influence. It was a decade of go-go-go-girls, Kubrik, sports cars and Cointreau - the "me" generation, My involutite year was 1970 and I am happy to live it all-

Her collection bezan when she was 15. The main inspiration was her father, for each room - I like each who was a dustman in a wealthy area at the time when

punk had just taken hold. The Sixties and Seventies look had become very unfashionable and Angie's father regularly brought home Seventies lamps, artefacts, records and pointed bras on the "special dustcart". Over the years she has acquired one of the largest personal collec-tions of Biba arrefacts and clothes in the country and hires them out to film companies.

A few years ago it was fairly easy to find Biba products and other Seventies decor cheaply in markets and second hand shops. Now a lot of the pieces, such as the tall, curvy Carlton Ware coffee sets and the brightly estimated shattered Perspex coasters and lamp bases have become collectable and expensive. Charity shops and car boot

sales are still a good source for

Seventies style, and although

it has become more popular, it is still possible to pick up block

hint-of-tint tone, but it is great when you achieve the look you want. walls' ate a different feel

Too many

people are

scared of

colour

and have

room to say 'hello' to me."

The overall look is heavily researched and Angle watches period films and reads many books on decorating and collecting Seventies style. She feels it is important to find books that have photos of a house being lived in rather than just showing pieces of furniture. Old copies of House

have

The smallest roon in the house is a loo with attitude



"My favourite year was 1970 and I'm happy to live it all the time," says Angie, who started collecting when she was 15

and Garden (available from specialist magazine shops) have proved useful for showing a Seventies house in context. Most houses in the Seventies would still have had pieces from the Sixties and even the Fifties as people did

young, push-button, modern look of the day with plenty of chrome and glass. The walls are painted beige with tobacco and orange stripes and are decorated with beaten-copper pictures. The curtains have a bold print of brown and black swirts, and a swinging cane egg chair hangs from the

not go out and buy a complete

new range of furniture. The

sitting room achieves the

ceiling. In the corner is Angic's favourite piece of furniture. a knee-high, orange cylindrical cocktail cabinet. It has portholes for the bottles and can be wheeled around at a party with the top being used to hold glasses and canapés.

Through the red, glass-bead door you enter the kitchen with its solid, curved 1953 fridge. Much of the rest of the room pays homage to the Biba food hall. There are mugs, hot pants to a flimsy, empire-trays and tins, a large array of line wedding dress and a lake

jars that once held everything from chickpeas to bicarbonate of soda, all in the distinctive black and gold that Biba used for its logo and motifs. On the walls are the labels from the Biba quiche boxes (one from each of the ten varieties).

The bedroom is designed to have the sensuous. velvety feel of a boudoir. The walls are covered in purple hessian, which has not proved practical as the cat loves to climb the walls and tends to shred it.

The dressing table is completely covered with pots of Biba lotions, shampoo and make-up, including silver face and body paint which was

fashionable at the time. The cupboards are jammed with original Biba outlits (248 to be exact). These range from heavy satin nightdresses and

fur leopard-skin trouser suit. Floppy hats with flowers cover the walls and cupboards. The only room which has yet to receive the treatment is the bathroom. This has proved difficult because bathroom equipment and tiles tend to break and get thrown away when they are taken out of a house. Angle is, however, currently negotiating for a purple bathroom suite.

Angie sadly concedes that she has almost completed the design of her flat.

The cupboards are overflowing with wallpaper and curtains. I suppose my dream would be to win the lottery and carry on with my collection. I would buy a big Georgian house in Holland Park or Notting Hill and paint it purple on the outside with a turquoise door and window

JOYCE BLAKE

صكذا من رلاميل

avid and Alice wanted a baby. They consulted the doctor but they did not see any harm in consulting a feng shui practitioner too. He came, he saw, he put up a windchime. The couple, now £350 poorer, waited for their lives to become richer.

Nothing happened, however, so they called on Tony Holdsworth of the Midlands Feng Shui Centre in Ettington near Stratford-upon-Avon. He said: "I went with a Chinese master and the windchime was in the wrong place and it was reducing energy when it needed increasing. There was nothing other than a workshop in the area of creativity, and no improvements or suggestions had been made. The real problem was an underground burst sewage pipe in that area. That has been fixed but there is no

This couple were victims of feng shui phooey and they are not the only ones who have paid good money for had advice in this trendiest of disciplines. The West has fallen in love with the Chinese art which focuses on the way buildings and interior design affect the well-being and prosperity of the inhabitants. In Britain the trend for creating harmonious homes has gone from New Age fringe to mainstream, with even the likes of Wimpey handing out free guides on

But this month feng shui is growing up in Britain will two new schools that aim to provide standards and structure for a field that so far has been dominated by the feel-good factor. At last, time is running out for the charlatans and

their phooey.

This kind of course is a must." says Gina Lazenby of the Feng Shui Network in London. "At first there was just a growing awareness of what feng shui is. You know, the Gosh, I've got my toilet in the wealth corner and all my money is being flushed away type of thing. But the awareness is way beyond that now and we need people who know what they are doing and who are professional."

This is easier said than done. Chinese masters select their pupils, who can train for decades before becoming masters. "They would learn throughout their lifetime but cannot practise until they are almost drawing a pension," Ms

Britain has the opposite problem.

FACT FILE

A FENG SHUI consultant will charge from £150 for a small flat to £250 to £350 for the average home, depending on size and location. This is not cheap and arranging a consultation should be approached in the same spirit that you would hire a specialist

Most feng shui practitioners are found by word of mouth.
Another option would be to ring
the Feng Shui Network which can refer you to a consultant. Ask how long your consultant

has been practising and how they were trained. Ask for references and follow them up. At no point should you feel as if the wool is being pulled over your eyes. Gina Lazenby of the Feng Shui Network advises that

they do not feel right about, Chanting and robes may be fine, but feng shui consultants should also show an awareness of electromagnetic stress, geo-pathic stress (what is going on underneath your house) and look at the street layout and the outside of your house.

no one should hire a practitioner

■ The practitioner should ask about you and your life (including your birth date) and also show an interest in the history of the house and who lived there Some consultanta use a Chi-

nese compass or lo pan and some do not. If you want a traditional Oriental practitioner, employ someone who uses a lo pan. It you are not sure, ask the practitioner about it. Do not let anyone blind you with the science of it. If the practitioner gives you a list of changes, ask about them.

The number of feng shui consul-

tants here has leaptrogged from a

handful several years ago to up to

50 or more. Some are not experi-

enced enough to be practising and it is instructive that the Feng Shui

Network only has ten consultants on its books that it will recommend.

Tony Holdsworth is even more selective, believing that only a few

practitioners here have the exper-

The reason behind this difference

of opinion lies in the nature of feng

shul and how some have adapted it



Derek Walters, a feng shui expert, rearranges his garden

Involving yourself in the process gives you more understanding of

Lots of people expect feng shui to solve all their problems overnight but in many cases changes are not made all at once.

If you make the changes and

nothing happens or things get worse, ring your practitioner. Gina Lazenby believes most problems stem from poor communication. The practitioner should be happy to discuss the situation and to make further suggestions.

to Western ways. Mr Holdsworth is a purist, believing that the only proper feng shui is the Oriental kind based on the use of the Chinese compass or lo pan. His course, which he calls "vocational". made up of nine weekend sessions at the Midlands centre over a year and costs £998. An advanced course is being planned for next year.

Its main lecturer is consultant Derek Walters, an authority on Chinese culture and the author of many books including The Feng

Shui Handbook. "There is a real need for this. I teach a similar course in Germany and have advanced students there," Mr Walters says. They show me examples of their practical work and they know more about feng shui than others who are charging and working as consultants in Britain."

Like many in Britain, Ms Lazenby stumbled on feng shui by accident when she took a course from William Spear, the American guru of "intuitive feng shui". She set up the network and, in the past

few years, has experienced the boom in the subject first hand with the phones "going crazy". Some 10,000 calls later, she decided the time was right to use her contacts to

set up a "professional" course.

Ms Lazenby says feng shui is not
a purely Oriental practice. "I see it not as a Chinese thing but as something that is universal. I want to see how we can use it in England, in Scotland, in our semi-detached houses, in our cottages. The lo pan compass takes a long time to learn. But there is another way of doing it which is based on intuition. Neither

is wrong or right."
Her course, to be held in central London, includes teachers from Australia and America and covers such diverse subjects as electro-magnetic stress, feng shui in the kitchen, and children.

"It has to have real value and not be just a few cheap courses put together. I have to balance credibility, professionalism and affordability," she says.

he course involves 50 dasses over two to three years. It will cost from £5,000 to £7,000 and graduates may become eligible to go on to the network's consultant registry.

When this field becomes regulated - and it will be one day then we will need information in filing cabinets and case studies to show we have done our home-

work," Ms Lazenby says.

Any consultant worth his or her £150 a session should bring a wealth of experience to your home. They should be knowledgeable about Chinese astrology, geopathic stress and ask lots of questions about the history of your house and your life. Ideally, they will bring you into the process and be available afterwards for follow-up.

"If you have a question, ring them up," Ms Lazenby says. "Irs in nobody's interest for something to be half-done." Unfortunately, some, like David and Alice, have learnt that the hard way.

#### ANN TRENEMAN

 Details of Gina Lazenby's course are available from the Feng Shul Network International, PO Box 2133, London WIA IRL (0171-935 8935).

 For information on Tony Holdsworth's programme, contact the School of Feng Shul, Vocational Training Course, 34 Banbury Road Ettington, Stratford-upon-Avon. Warwickshire CV37 7SU (01789 740116).

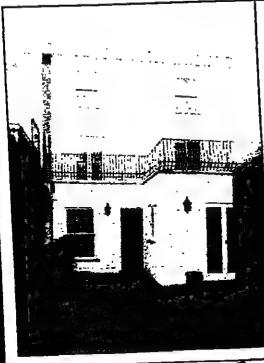


A Chinese cabinet placed to link dining and living rooms



tise to practise.

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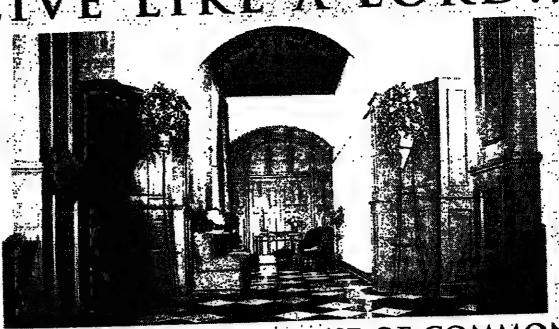
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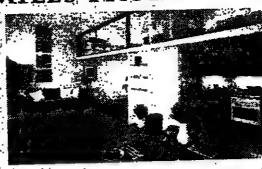
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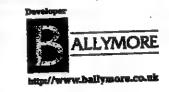


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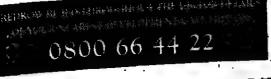
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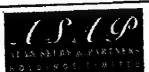
From its grand foyer to the double height apartments, with ceilings up to 16 feet tall, the building exemplifies the Beaux-Arts ethic for

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Houses that lodge in the memory

Gatehouses may be small, but these former servants' quarters

are commanding a big audience

described as being "in mortal peril", are now being snapped up by affluent buyers prepared to pay over the odds for quirky

It is easy to be beguiled by the little buildings standing sentry at the entrances to the parks of great houses. They were usually designed by the architect of the great house itself as a foretaste of the splendour to be found at the end of the drive. They could be described as baby houses and, like baby animals, their smallness is part of their appeal.

But that very smallness can be a problem for a home, as can their usual proximity to a main road. Some lodges have a major drawback: they are divided by the drive, the living room being on one side, the bedroom on the other. Architectural historian Dr

Tim Mowl. of Bristol, who has cowritten a buok about lodges, says like babv the earliest examwere built ples were built after 1710, when houses – lashion turned from formal gar-dens to walled their parks. These resmallness quired gates, usually at some disis all part tance from the house. Improved of their road surfaces led to more coaches. appeal' which called for gate keepers, who

needed housing. In the 18th century, landlords rarely considered their servants' comfort and many early lodges are crumped inside. In Victorian times owners became more philanthropic and many 19th-century lodges make lovely homes.

Yet as recently as the 1980s many of these houses were decaying, either because the landlord had no wish to sell them for refurbishment, or because house-hunters overlooked them. In 1988, Dr Mowl estimated that about one-fifth of the 10,000 to 15,000 lodges in Britain were derelict.

Lodges. its a distinguished and enlivening building type, ure in mortal peril," he and speculated: "The reason for their decay has to be the memory — in a class-conscious society — of servile gate-watchers bobbing curtsies and tugging forelocks as the car-

riages rolled by."
Hopefully, this dismal picture has changed. Surrey estate agent Curchods says lodges command a premium of 10 per cent because of their

originality and rarity.
They always attract a great deal of interest and we can quite easily target the most likely buyers." Andrew Dewar, a joint senior partner, says. These properties tend to at- . Grimston Park, North York-

tract professional couples who want to enjoy their freedom to live in something idiosyncratic. They draw people who are not conformist.

"There is usually more than one purchaser champing at the bit to buy lodges. They want the quirks and will pay a

premium," he says.
Last November Curchods marketed three lodges in Surrey. Two have already sold for their asking price.

The Gatehouse near Otter shaw is one of a pair built in 1795 by Wyatt, It has two bedrooms, a drawing room, tory, and sold for £235,000.

Emma Rickwood, aged 27, managing director of A restaurant company, and her husband Ian. 29, a management consultant, moved into The Gatehouse in January. "Every time I drive home I think, do I really live here?" said Mrs

Rickwood. "I suppose we did pay a blt of a premium for it. You could buy a nice fourbedroom property in this area for the same price but there are plenty of couples like us who want a small amount of space but want something with a bit of character." East Lodge at

bedrooms and two reception rooms and is still for sale at £235,000. Curchods also sold a onebedroom lodge in Weybridge for £145,000.

Pains Hill, Cob-

ham, also has two

Elsewhere in the country. some stunning lodges are still on the market, the grandest being the Gate House at Englefield Green, Surrey, which, situated on the edge of Windsor Great Park, has royal neighbours and is only a mile away from the polo ground at Smith's Lawn. Just 500 yards from the Gate House is Royal Lodge, the Queen Mother's home.

The red-brick Grade II listed eight-bedroom house is held on licence from the is £2,500, which includes the right to use a private access into the main park. It has been in the same family for 45 years and needs renovating, which explains the asking price from Knight Frank of £360,000.

A more typical small lodge house being marketed by Black Horse Agencies is West Gate Lodge at Flimwell Grange, Flimwell, East Sussex, which has two bedrooms, a small dining room and a compact sitting room for sale for £110,000. The smallest on offer, through Savills' York office, is East Gate Lodge at

BALEARICS

FRANCE

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Ian and Emma Rickwood outside The Gatehouse in Ottershaw, Surrey, one of a pair built in 1795 by Wyatt. They bought the two-bedroom lodge last year for £235,000-

shire, which is a cute one-up one-down building. The sit-ting-room is just loft by 9ft 4in. its kitchen is 10ft 4in by 7ft 10in, both being on the lower ground floor, while its only bedroom, on the ground floor, is a compact 10ft Sin by 7ft 6in. The house has a small garden and a parking area, and the asking price is £65,000. Taskers Arch at Anna Val-

ley, near Andover, Hamp-shire, is probably the most unusual lodge available at the moment. The arch bridges two lodge houses built around 1834 by Robert Tasker, founder of a local iron works. Beneath the arch was an iron gate made in the foundry. One lodge was used as a chapel on Sundays and as a school on weekdays for the children of ironwork-

East Gate Lodge near Tadcaster is on sale for £65,000

ers. The schoolmistress and her husband lived in the other lodge, and had the use of the arch room, which now provides a third bedroom for the west side of the lodge, which is now for sale at £99,950.

The unusual building features in the Test Valley Tapestry, which hangs in the Test Valley Council building, Andover, and the marketing agent, John D. Wood, says it has great charm and character and is extremely versatile".

ut there are also modern lodges for sale, which are purpose built with all mod cons. On the market at the moment is one of two lodge houses either side of the gate at Cavendish Lodge, Bath, a. block of 20 flats that is being built by Beaufort Homes in the form of a large classical mansion. One lodge has already been sold but the other, a two-bedroom show home, is still available for £260,000.

"It's a very interesting modern adaptation of an historic building type," Dr Mowl says after viewing the lodge. "Old lodges are usually much smaller than these, but if you stand back and view them in relation to the main building, the scale is very good.

The detailing on them is excellent, for example they have a carved swag. The rubble-stone walling against smooth ashlar blocks gives them a rustic feel. It's a nice contrast which you don't get on ordinary classical buildings in Bath, and it makes the building look 20th-century rather than old."

CHRISTINE WEBB

● Trumpet at a Distant Gate by Dr. Timothy Mowl and Brian Earnshaw, published by Waterstones, is out of print but available from libraries.

Black Horse Agencies, 850999, John D. Wood, 01962 863131. Savills, 01904 620731. Knight Frank, 01344 24732.

Cavendish Lodge flats and lodge house are available through Savilis, 01225 444622:

#### PROPERTY NEW

A QUARTER of all new residential developments in central London have been converted from office buildings, according to a seport by Savills. At the beginning of this year, 95 per cent of available units were built on sites which were formerly in non residential tase. compared with 84 per cent in 1996.

■ INVESTORS are snapping up properties to let outside London to catch the wave of rising house orices as it filters . out of the capital, reports Knight Frank. Almost 10 per cent of country house buyers in the Home Counties were buying properties over E500,000 last year for investment purposes.

BUYERS and sellers who agree a house sale should be legally bound to pay a deposit, suggests the National Association of Estate Agents. This may not put paid to gazumping. says the association, but would alleviate financial

A THREE bedroom clock house in the conversion of a 17thcentury coach house in the grounds of Chippenham Hall near Bury St Edmunds is for sale through Bedfords with a guide price of £155,000. Future owners are bound to wind the clock, but receive a £4 reduction in maintenance charges each week. Bedfords 01284

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#### SELLING **POINTS**

#### **STUDIES**

aura Ashley started from one. So did Richard Branson. Today, 22 I per cent of people in Britain work from home for some of their working week, according to the latest report from the Henley Centre for

With changing work patterns, in-creasing self-employment and the growth of telecommuting, this number s forecast to increase to 30 per cent by the end of the century. For more and more house buyers, a space to Work is an important consideration. Certainly the word "study" on

property details carries an attractive, worldly air. It suggests solidity, integ-rity: a book-lined. Sherlock Holmes fug of pipe smoke sizzling with rapier intellect. Unfortunately, few houses have the luxury of a spare room unless they extend into the attic or loft space - that can be turned into a dedicated study.

The solution is to think laterally. For example, parents could turn the master bedroom into a shared children's room, take a smaller room themselves and use the smallest room as a study. The contents of the box room could be re-distributed (or thrown out) and the space turned into a cubby-hole study. Even replacing the spare-room bed with a sofa-bed creates a virtual dedicated study.

If none of these options are feasible, be creative with the existing space. "Multifunctional" is the key word. Target rooms or areas that are infrequently used (such as the dining room, conservatory, spare bedroom) or in which nobody lingers (hall, landing, main bedroom) and you may be surprised how easy it is to find an under-used corner. Slipping a desk and shelving in the space under the stairs is a classic example of multi-

The four basic requirements for a working area are good lighting, work



Sherlock Holmes's study, recreated above for a television programme, suggests integrity and a wordly air

surface, storage and (a degree of) privacy. Ideally, you want an area away from family traffic. Aim to confine the working area to one corner or side. Otherwise, you will have to dear away everything each time the room is needed for its other purpose; a disincentive to work in the first place and not good for family harmony.

Do not overlook the space under the bedroom window or that corner alcove on the landing. However, unless you thrive on chaos and interruptions, kitchen tables are not a good idea - no matter that it did no harm to Mrs

Working areas can look messy and ugly, particularly if computers and faxes are flashing their ugly rears from the corner of an elegant living room. Simple screens, even an artful arrangement of plants, can cover their modesty. Equally, if the rest of the

room distracts from your work - a double bed in the bedroom, for example - arrange your working area to look away from the room. (Alternatively, get a hard and unsexy-looking

Working areas need not look like the office. There is no hard and fast rule that says you cannot keep folders and files in a mahogany tallboy or antique amoire

desk can be an old pine table. a length of shelving fitted into an alcove or a hinged surface that folds away against the wall, perhaps sited under a windowsili to give you the added bonus of a view.

Bookshelves can be built around and over doorways, while open shelves of unautractive boxfiles and directories can be hidden behind

panelled doors or a simple pull-down blind. With careful planning, and a good carpenter, you can hide an entire workstation behind fitted or folding doors. A sliding, pull-out shelf can hold a computer keyboard and double as a working surface. Variable width shelves and drawers can accommodate books, files, stationery, even a fax

and a printer.

Close the doors and the bedroom/dining/living room reverts. to normal. Where working space is tight or windowless, lighting is important. If there is no room for a desk lamp, consider recessed ceiling lighting or a concealed strip-light fitted to

an overhead shelf. If space really defeats you, there is always the garden shed. It did no harm to Roald Dahl.

HELEN PICKLES

# Unless we're careful, sheep will start rounding up shepherds, pheasants will refuse to fly, and pigs will succeed in doing so

omewhere on a laboratory shelf in America sits a drug which could devastate country life as we know it. It has been developed with those good intentions with which we all know the road to hell to be paved. May I suggest what that hell will be like?

This group of drugs offers hope in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease. No problem there. But a report in this newspaper last week said, "scientists believe that these memory pills will also lift normal performance to super-normal levels". And here is the chilling bit: "Animals given the drugs have shown remarkable improvements in learning." Aaargh! What have they done? Have they fed this stuff to Mickey Mouse and turned him into Mastermind Mouse? I think we should be told, for the implications are dire.

It is worth remembering that the balance of power which exists between us and animals, seen at its most raw in the countryside and on the farm, exists only because, when it comes to knowing how many beans make five, we get it right more times than they do. We are deverer,

there is an easy and foolproof way to bornly sit on the move a nig from A to B. The farmer starts ground and say boo move a pig from A to B. The farmer starts at A. alongside the pig, with a brimming bucket of feed in his hand, and walks slowly towards B, where he puts the bucket on the ground. It is beyond the realms of possibility that the pig will not eventually shift its stubborn self towards B. If B was the trailer in which you wanted to catch it, so much the better. It will always work because the pig, though brighter than some animals, has no understanding of patience, and how that of the farmer's will ultimately evaporate if kept waiting too long. All it under-

stands are the pleasures of dining. So imagine what country life would be like if animals and birds get hold of this superdrug from some waste source or other, develop superior mental powers and start to think things through.

I can foresee a time when, instead of responding to the scare tactics of beaters

would be entirely safe. Horse riding would cease to be a pleasure, because the new-found wits of the animal would enable it to work out that if it did not fancy trotting the lanes that day, it did not have to. This would result in a new breed

of servile owner taking their mounts cups of morning tea to get them in a compliant mood. Shepherding would come to an end, because sheep would soon learn that they could run rings around men with crooks even more than they do now. On second thoughts, scrub that; no one is suggesting a drug so

DOWN TO EARTH

PAUL HEINEY

powerful as to give sheep the powers of reasoning; pigs might fly first— which, of course, they could if they put their new, souped-up minds to it. Most frightening is the thought that the animals' superbrains might decide that, if we enjoy a roast slice of them, might they not enjoy a roast slice of us? If this sounds like something from

the events in the House of Commons last Monday, where the Minister of Agriculture was censured for the Government's handling of the BSE crisis.

It was a good row, but we are none the wiser. If it eventually comes to be proven

That's enough brains, thank you that this disease was created by defying the cow's natural instincts not to eat meat, where does that leave the brainpower of the innocent cow? Higher or lower on the scale than those who drew up the regulations, allowed the loophole, did very little about it for a very long time, and then put healthy animals to the torch for "political reasons"?

> learly, compared with the present and previous ministers of agriculture, the cow has already got the edge when it comes to brainpower. After all, given a choice, no cow would ever choose to eat the brains of a dead sheep.

I am indebted to the New Farmer and Grower magazine --- required reading for the realms of science fiction, I refer you to those who doubt organic is the way forward in farming — for reminding us that as long ago as 1923 the philosopher Rudolph Steiner wrote: "Consider a cow or an ox . . What would happen if the ox were to eat meat directly instead

of plants ... The ox would go crazy."

Those who say the BSE crisis was unforeseen have the written proof that it was not. Steiner says: "If an experiment could be made in which a herd of oxen were suddenly fed with pigeons, it would produce a completely mad herd of oxen." You do not have to be a veterinarian to

see the common sense in it. Imagine a field of sheep and cows together, and a ewe dies. Does the cow gallop straight over and savage it, as would a hungry dog or a fox? No, it has the intelligence to work out that grass is better for it and, given a free rein, will

always eat what is safe for it to do so. There is a toxic weed called ragwort which kills all livestock if digested, but it is rare for cows to graze it. They know. they have brains; more brains than those who thought they knew better and arrogantly assumed that the cow's instinct counted for very little.

So here is my plea. Let us have this superdrug for all the benefits to memory and reasoning that it will bring. But do not try it out on the animals first. As last Monday's debate proved, there are far more urgent cases.



# Welsh squirrels beware

n a quiet valley in north Wales, an 80-year-old lady is masterminding a plan to reduce the numbers of magpies and grey squirrels in Snowdonia - and indeed beyond its borders. Her name is Esmé Kirby, and she lives on a farm above the River Gwyrd, which flows east from the foothills of Snowdon to Capel Curig.

She has been campaigning for Snowdonia all her life, and now she has a new purpose. She is appalled by the way the magpies raid the nests of chaffinches and other small birds in the farmhouse gardens, and believes their numbers have been much reduced as a result.

As for grey squirrels, they undoubtedly do a great deal of harm, both to birds and to trees in gardens and forests, and may have helped drive out red squirrels from much of Britain, hich is Mrs Kirby's main concern. Thart from keeping them down on the mainland, Mrs Kirby and the conservation body she has set up, the Esme Kirby Snowdonia Trust, have an ambitious plan to eliminate grey squirrels in the isle of Anglesey, and replace them with red squirrels.
For 55 the trust will send detailed

instructions for making a humane squirrel trap. This is a simple construction, consisting of a wooden tunnel with a board that drops behind the squirrel and traps it when it comes in for the bait. Also for £5, the trust will send anyone a pack containing instructions, and the essential metal springs, for building a Larsen trap to carchmagpies. This needs wire netting as well as wood, but is also simply made. It uses a decoy bird, which other magpies will come down to investigate - and then a door springs shut behind them. About 200 magpie packs had been dispatched by the end of last year. Of course, you have to give the captives a smart blow on the head once

you have caught them.) Mrs Kirby has done much to protect the beauties of Snowdonia and establish better public access to them. In her time, she has prevented the renowned Cromlech Boulders in the Llanberis Pass beneath Snowdon from being blown up during road-widening; has

Esmé Kirby, octogenarian protector of Snowdonia's charms, has her sights firmly

'Peregrine

set on a new target, says Derwent May

cleared a vast dump of old fridges, cookers and mattresses that lay in a rural quarry above Dolgellau and resown it with mountain ash trees; and recently has opened to walkers an eight-mile path through bracken and across streams on the mountainside she owns above her house.

Her farm is called Dyffryn Mymbyr ("The Valley of Many Streams"), and she and her husband, Peter, live in a sturdy stone farmhouse with a few trees around it, a bird table where peregrine falcons come reg-

ularly to feed, and Snowdon visible through the kitchen window on a clear It is from Dyffryn Mymbyr that she manages her Snowdonia Trust, the successor to another body

that she founded almost 30 years ago, the Snowdonia National Park Society, which still exists but goes its own way without her. Even the story of how she came to the mountain is a

romantic one. Before the Second World War, as a young woman, she ran a riding school in Llandudno, which in those days was the town where all the Manchester cotton-brokers had their homes. A young man named Thomas Firbank, who was a nephew of the writer Ronald Firbank, had bought the farm of Dyffryn Mymbyr as an adventure, though he did not know much about farming. Later he was to write a very successful book about it called I Bought a Mountain. He saw Esmé in Llandudno and carried her off to the farm as his bride. Unfortunately, the mar-riage did not last long, but Thomas gave his young wife the farm. She has been there ever since, and farmed it on

her own for more than 40 years,

though it now has a Welsh tenant

farmer. The war changed the course of her life again. A young Yorkshireman, Major Peter Kirby, MC, came to run a battle school in Capel Curig, met the girl farming up the road and married her. This time the marriage lasted. After the war. Mr Kirby set up the museum of the Royal Welch Fusiliers in a tower of Caernarvon Castle, became its first curator and is now an expert on the history of Snowdonia. He has stood shoulder to shoulder withhis

wife through all her conservation battles and, being an expert carpenter, has made all the bridges and stiles that take walkers over the streams and walls on her glorious mountain path.

falcons The Esme Kirby Snowregularly donia Trust was founded in 1989 when the members of appear to her earlier creation, the National Park Society, gave her a dinner and a feed at her present of £3,500. She put bird table' the money towards creating the trust, and wellwishers from all over the

world have been making donations since then. She has numerous friends that she has made at the famous climbing hotel just down the road, the Pen-y-Gwyrd Hotel (where we had some splendid mountain lamb for dinner), and by the end of 1995 her supporters had brought the trust's funds up to £40,000. Time to start work

again, she thought. The first year's achievements included the public opening of the mountain path by the athlete Sir Chris Brasher, the repair - with the help of Forest Enterprise and Gwynedd County Council - of a boggy section of another mountain path near Trawsfynydd, and the removal of Tarmac heaps, old silage bags, and graffiti in many parts of Snowdonia. To help her, the trust has gathered a large band of

volunteers with muscles and brains and the Army has lent a hand with some of the heavy work.

What lies ahead? One splendid new project is the restoration of the original milestones on the great Holyhead road, now the A5, built by Thomas Telford in the early 19th century. On these elegantly carved stones there were once iron plaques giving not just the distance from London and Holyhead but the distance in miles and furlongs from the nearest staging post each wy. Most of the stones remain, but most of the plaques have gone. With the help of the Welsh Office, the trust hopes to see them all replaced.

This summer, too, many "tree weeds", as Mrs Kirby calls them, will be removed. By this she means the rampaging undergrowth on tree-lined roads that completely screens the views when It is in leaf. Again, by slow, steady persuasion of the local farmers, the trust hopes to open up all the paths that encircle Snowdon and to link them up with each other to form a reliable

few days ago I stood on the mountain path above Mrs Kirby's house and looked around. The sun was breaking through the clouds above the valley, two ravens circled high overhead and a sheep peered down at me from a rock. The sheep had the blue paint mark on its coat which showed that its lambs would still need to be tested for radioactive fallout from the Chernobyl disaster and then sent to the lowlands to feed until all traces of the dangerous radioactivity had gone. Snowdonia has had its troubles.

I am not entirely with Mrs Kirby on her anti-magpie campaign, because there are more serious enemies of small birds, including cats and herbicides, and I like magpies. But as I looked down at the farmhouse, it cheered me to think that two doughty octogenarian fighters were still plotting away there for the future of Snowdonia, quite undaunted.

● Esmé Kirby Snowdonia Trust, Capel Curig, Betws-y-Coed, Gwynedd 11.24 0ES (tel/ fax 01690 720234).

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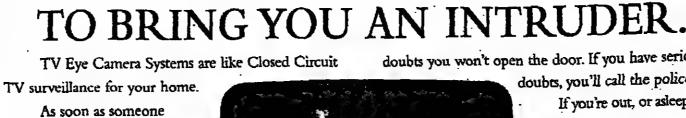
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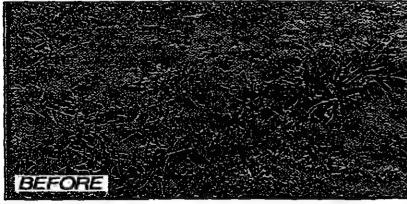
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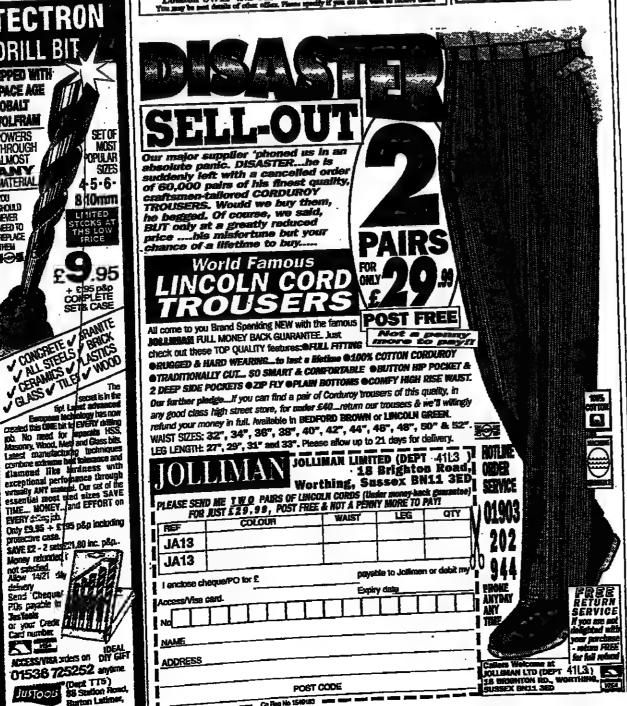
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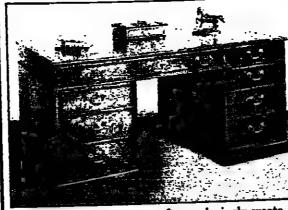
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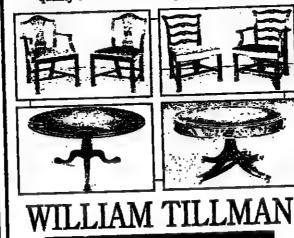
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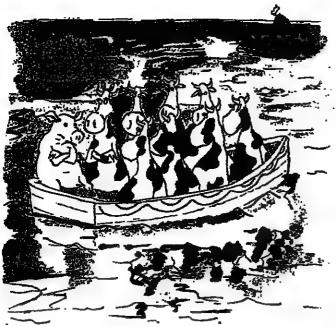
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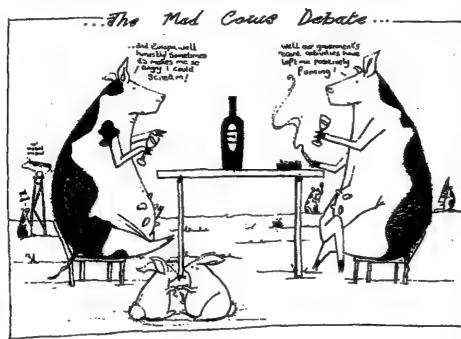
Above: Cristabel Millar was eight when she drew this snappy cartoon of John Major. The letter from The Times telling her she was shortlisted for the competition arrived on her ninth birthday — "the best present ever"

Left: "Look. All I'm saying is that if the worst comes to the worst, most of us here are convinced that there is a safe way to eat beel." This cartoon by Jamie Kyle, 29, of Liverpool, won him a place on the competition shortlist



Left: shortlisted in the Under-30 category Richard Solihull, bas had work accepted by magazines, despite a lack of training — just a grade C in GCSE art

Right: Chris Wreford, of Bristol, another entrant in the Under-30 category, won his place on the shortlist with



a cartoonist - they have it or

Brookes shares Miss Cal-

many of the entries while

applauding those that made it

on to the shortlist. "I think

there were fewer this year that

were successful, but the brief

was very narrow and quite

His own carroons are covet-

ed by politicians, who often

ask their office staff to write

requesting the originals. "The

only politician who writes

personally is Ken Clarke,"

Brookes says. "Strangely, the

cartoons he asks for always

him dominating Major."

em to be the ones that show

Brookes's advice to young

hopefuls is to try cartooning keeping their day job. "it's a very difficult field and it's

easier to freelance while you

work out what you really want

Jamie Kyle, 29, from Liver-

pool, was training to be a solicitor when he decided he

could no longer resist the

desire to be an artist. He is

now doing an art foundation course at Hugh Baird College

the whole of my law course doodling through lectures and

finally decided to try to do art

seriously. I entered The Times

competition last year but I

birds love

Holde Esta 1956

ACCESSORIES

"I'm a drawaholic. I spent

to do," he says.

in Liverpool.

difficult." he says.

they don't.'

# Pockets of wry humour

always a differ-When he worked as a tree surgeon in the West Midlands for Solihull council, he was the only one in a team of hearty outdoor types to have

a morbid fear of open spaces. When Tomes, aged 29, finally decided to hang up his clambering about in the tree-tops, he tried to think of a job that would meet his desire to be indoors and alone. And cartooning seemed the obvi-

ous solution. "There were some things I liked about working with trees, like building up my muscles. But I really wanted to think of something I could do without going outside in the rain," he says. "I get terrible anxiety attacks when I go out. The thing I like about drawing cartoons is that I can do it on

my own inside the house." Tomes has already had work accepted by Punch and, the Oldie magazines, despite a lack of formal training. His only qualification, apart from the gloomy nature which is shared by many cartoonists, is

a grade C in GCSE art. Now he is one of the shortlisted entrants who will be gathering at Simpson's-inthe-Strand, London, next Thursday for The Times Young Cartoonist of the Year Award in conjunction with the British Cartoonists' Association. The annual award, now in its second year, is in honour of Mel Calman, who brought his dark ver touching humour to pocket cartoons on the front

until his untimely death three

years ago. Even Çalman, who scoured young artists' degree shows for new talent, would have been impressed by the youngest entrant on the shortlist this year. Cristabel Millar was just eight when she submitted her drawing of John Major.

The letter from The Times telling Cristabel of her place ninth birthday. It was, she says, the best present she had ever been given. "Cristabel is absolutely

thrilled to be on the shortlist. says her mother. Richenda Millar. "She is very critical of her own work and was worried that she hadn't made the drawing look enough like John Major."

Cristabel excels in her art classes at Hill House International Junior School in London, according to Kathryn Gutteridge, her teacher, who says: "Out of all the 300 children i teach, Cristabel's is a very unusual talent. She is perceptive and way beyond her years in terms of

cartooning."
Mrs Millar says she and her husband. John, have no artisthe ability. "I think Kathryn is a wonderful teacher," she says. "One day she had a class on Picasso. All the mothers arrived to collect their children from school to find them clutching their own 'cubist'

paintings. Cristabel's portrayal of a lonely Prime Minister would have appealed to Calman, according to his daughter Claire, a freelance writer who is one of the judges in this page of The Times for 15 years years competition.

father's humour was very black - very much in the

When we were doing the judging I told the others that the problem with cartoonists is they're such a bloody miserable bunch. But I suppose you would be slightly worried if cartoonists weren't a bit odd,"

> The competition attracted down on the previous year's 300. But 1996 was the first year



"The Palace confirms that Fergie's new home will be financed entirely by her book sales"

By Simon Torrance

of the competition and the brief was wider - any cartoon was accepted as long as it complied with the chosen theme of food and drink. This year the judges set a

more difficult standard: a front-page pocket cartoon along Calmanesque lines. "There were too few car-

toons that made me laugh this year," Miss Calman says. "We had a lot of accomplished drawings but it's original ideas that really interest me." Peter Brookes, the Times political cartoonist, believes

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this year."

Kyle is a Calman fan. "I

quick and distinctive sense of prefer pocket cartoons to any other form because I'm quite impatient. I get frustrated if I humour than being a brilliant draughtsman. It's easier to don't get a result immediateimprove the drawing than the humour. I don't think it's " he savs. "I get most of my ideas for possible to make someone into

jokes at night, so I have a book next to my bed. Although I have always dreamt of doing self-doubt. I think no one will ever laugh at my cartoons." Simon Torrance, who was

70 when he submitted his shortlisted entry, has not yet been tempted to give up his job as a management consultant.



TORRANCE draws in his spare time and is illustrating a handbook on

office politics. "It's the sort of book you buy for your auntie and she puts it in the lavatory," he says.

Torrance began drawing cartoons as a child and soon progressed to caricatures of his teachers at Bristol Grammar School. "I used to draw cartoons for my granny. I invented a new race of people with no arms and big noses, i was inspired by Asterix and Tintin and I loved the Calman cartoons in The Times, which was always lying around at home," he says.

competition before but I would love to be a full-time artist if it would pay the bills. It would be great to live like Picasso in a huge house in France surrounded by beautiful women."

**EMMA WILKINS** 

"I have never entered a

# Snakes are better off in the grass

y landlord has thrown me out. live," the boy in the street said mournfully. I scarcely knew him. But it was that encounter which landed me with a new mom-mate. Not the lank student with the calamitous green eyes - I never saw or heard from him again - but his pet

snake, Dorothy. Dorothy was moved into my flat the next day — a oft Royal Python, with a homemade palace of plywood and Per-spex. Finding space for her was my first problem but paying electricity bills for the thermal lamp was the second. And then there was the winter's day — one of those Scottish ones when the frost is inside the window — when the lamp blew all the fuses in the flat and Leame back from my ectures to find Dorothy as cold as chain-mail. I wrap-

she slept in my bed that night to keep warm. Feeding her proved the next hurdle. Frozen mice bought from a pet shop elicited scarcely a flicker of the tongue. Wincingly I proffered a live gerbil. Five power-packed ourses of desert rat hurtled in terrified attack at a listless reptile. In the six months that I looked after Dorothy she are nothing. Meanwhile, a pair of gerbils bred copiously in their cage in the corner of the room.

ped her in a pillowcase and

Then one day she began to shed her skin; not as she was supposed to - like a chantreuse slipping out of a sequinned sheath — but

in chafed tatters. Her new hide was already drab and dam-aged. I telephoned the reptile house at Edinburgh Zoo and a keeper came round that evening to take her away. It was surprising, he said, that she had survived that long. Snakes are delicate creatures which in captivity need dedicated attention. Dorothy still lives there.

Keeping exotic animals was once a pastime for amateur naturalists and professional eccentrics. Salvador Dali cossetted an ocelot. Rossetti walked his wombat along Cheyne Row. But such fashions have reached the hightreet now. The doggie is left in

Since it's become less

cold, Nuis, my neutered

ginger tomcat wants to go out

at night but I am worried he

will be run over. Also, could

he be "catnapped" — he has a

beautiful coat? Am I being

cellent night vision. There is a

risk whenever a cat goes out,

but hazards do not increase in

darkness. When I had cats

they were allowed to choose

between a warm boiler room

or a night on the tiles. I don't

believe catnapping is a reality.

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trols about the supply of

animals for experimental pur-

poses. No scientist is going to risk his whole career by using

Fifteen months ago we bought a pony for our

12-year-old daughter. Rocky

is everything a first pony should be -- easy to catch.

an illegally obtained cat.

Cats enjoy roaming in Cats enjoy roaming in the gloaming. They are semi-nocturnal and have ex-

unfair to keep him in?

Keeping exotic pets is often

a bad idea

the pet shop window while children covet scorpions, terrapins or iguanas.

Pets come in perplexing varieties these days. With the Chilean Rose and the Chilean Red, the Peruvian Pink Toes and the Mexican Red Knees. all to choose from, deciding which breed of tarantula to opt for is as difficult for the uninitiated as choosing be-tween the Lambrusco and the Châteauneuf du Pape on the supermarket shelves — and might even bear the same social pitfalls. Careful consideration should always be taken before buying any pet. The

Beware: terrapins are serious growers, needing a bigger tank

outlay will be for many a major deterrent. Rare birds can cost thousands of pounds. and reptiles and certain amphibians several hundred. Cages take up a lot of space and a vivarium, with heat lamp and thermostat, is expensive to buy and run.

esponsible pet shops will explain to their caring for a pet involves. Sveite viridescent lizards of placid temperament grow into dragons with scimitar claws and lashing tails. Terrapins as petite as an old

penny swell into huge threenous turtles demanding

motorbikes, pieces of paper,

awest itch tree summer?

avoid most of the midges. Fly-killing vapour strips hung in

the stable will also help and

spraying Rocky with insecti-cide (ask your vet) is a third line of defence.

Readers should write to The

Times Vet, Weekend, The Times, I Pennington Street, London El

JAMES ALLCOCK

changed. Chinchillas and chipmunks may look cuddly in their cages but being excitable and darting they can be difficult to handle, and wreak rodentine havoc on soft furnishings and electric cables.

New Yorkers, when the fashion for alligators faded, flushed their unwanted pets into the city sewers where they thrived on rats and terrorised municipal workers.

In Britain, as exasperated parents dispose of their bored children's pets in ponds and lakes, viruses alien to our native fauna are released. The deaths of thousands of British frogs from a virus previously unknown in this country have been linked to the release of red-eared terrapins, iguanas and American bullfrogs into the wild. A equally impor-tant consideration is the

harm the exotic pet trade doeso wildlife abroad. It helps create a blackmarket now worth an estimated 13 billion a year - for

Tho says

husband

captive bred parrots are lew and often prohibitively xpensive, so wild-caught pecimens, often of protectd species, are smuggled istead, often in appallig onditions. Intensive live rapping of the the Golden ion Tamirin, for instance, small burnished primate hich breeds in ever-dwinlling pockets of coastal ainforest in Brazil, has rought it almost to the erge of extinction. Yet hese animals are still illeally trapped and sold.

List year the WWF launched a campaign calling vigilance to help the fight the illegal wildlife trade. To boot this initiative it has set up a phone line for information about the unlawful sale of

exotic animals and plants. People are encouraged to pay attention to anything suspicious - vans arriving late at night outside a wildlife traders prenises, advertisements for exoti: pets in local papers, for itstance.

RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON ● Fa a WWF information packeall the 24-hour hotline on OHII 426111.

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Benji: full of beans

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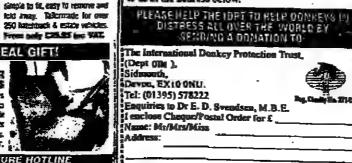
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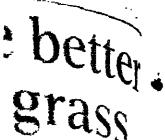
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'Women barely contemplate seeing one another unless food is involved, diet or no diet . . . but men do it only when they're very, very drunk'

ust what is it about the idea of dinner that is so threatening to the average heterosexual male? Is the word forever associated with a schmaltry vision of candlelight, romance, single rose in vase and Mantovani strings? There has to be a reason why my friends wouldn't dream of meeting a deux in a restaurant, let alone risk getting together over a bowl of pasta and a bottle of wine in each others' homes.

The other day I suggested to my husband that he invite one of his friends round, as a pleasant deviation from their usual pint-in-pub-post-footie male-bonding syndrome. What a reaction. In his mind's eye, he had clearly transformed himself into a mincing Cage aux Folles houseboy.

However interesting the differences are between the sexes. I have never quite been able to bring myself to read those gender-genre bestsellers, which all appear to have been written by Americans with degrees in socio-psycho linguistics - Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus and Why don't you understand me, you great big banana-

# Making a meal of friendship

head; women yak, men talk back, or words to that effect.

Perhaps if I had done, I would now understand why men will eat together only at night if they're under the age of 30. very very drunk, and in somewhere resolutely unromantic, such as a brightly lit Lebanese take-away, or an indifferent curry house under a winking neon sign: Lager Louts Most Welcome Here!"

Women, on the other hand, will barely contemplate seeing one another - diet or no diet - unless food is involved. This is why restaurants are full of females often in twosomes — day or night, because, although we have no qualms about cooking for one another, it's quite fun to escape the domestic scene, to dress up a bit, eat delicious food and be waited on. This way, you don't have to worry about the washing-up or the reciprocal invitation, or the child waking up just as you've got to a particularly succulent

morsel of gossip, Male friendship, it seems to me, is completely different from female friendship. and I don't quite see the point of it. The girlie date is a rewarding bumper-pack of the confessional, therapy and careers advice ses-

A Committee of the second

one. You emote. You whinge. You bitch. You ruminate. You beat your breast. You

sion all rolled up in

laugh a lot, and order another bottle of Friendship between women is all about intimacy; the sharing and off-

loading of feelings. It is the pleasure of moving from epic events on the world

stage to the minia-ture dreams of one's LIFE AND SOUL own life. It is both a liberation and deeply sustaining. I can't imagine life without

> Women are promiscuous with their friendship. We let down our guard for each other, old pals and new, at the drop of a hat. For us, it is an effortless trajectory from small talk to big talk and back

again. There is something enjoyably fluid and easy about our relationships the passion and playfulness, the high seriousness and the high jinks. We talk to each other in the way that men talk to lovers. Men don't have the same

cherishing, cocooning idea of friendship

Now, whether our husbands and partners would benefit if their friendships were more like our own is an interesting point. It could be argued that if they were able to indulge in a little more soul-searching with one another it might take the heat off their primary relationships.

But I have to say that the women in my circle (and I include myself) are not noticeably undernanding because of our deep and meaningful fabulous friendships with one another. Why is it that women and men bond with their own sex in such different

ways? I remember, years ago, reading about some psychological tests that were carried out on children - boys and girls were paired off by gender, and left alone together, two at a time. The boys set to

work, happily building Lego block ingether or making model aeroplane. and hardly exchanged a word. The girls in marked contrast, started chatting about their families, whether their favourite doll was Sindy or Tracy, and

hardly paused for breath. The conclusion was that very early on, boys slipped into doing things together, while what the girls like do was talk to

one another. Perhaps that's why men like meeting somewhere neutral and bloke-ish, with lots of distracting things to do in case the conversation dries up. An old-fashioned pub is ideal — darts, snooker table. mega-sized television screen - a haven from feminine frippery; somewhere safely, reassuringly male, with a whill of the barracks or the locker room.

It's a funny thing. Modern Man can change a nappy. Modern Man can cope with his wife earning more than him. Modern Man can cook, clean and hug a tree. But Modern Man wouldn't be seen dead eating in a brasserie with his best friend after dark. Dinner must be the last

ASHLEY COOVES

# Who says I need a husband?

Even in the 1990s, families are

pressurising single women to get

married, says Adrian Mourby

opulation figures tell us that there are slightly more men in Britain than women these days - and yet far more of the women seem to be single. Unless we are a nation of bigamists, this doesn't make sense; but it's true that Blind Date attracts three times as many gorgeous girls as fellas, and agony columns are either full of women wondering if they'll ever find a partner, or of women wishing that their families would stop wondering if they'll ever find a

We may all have squirmed while watching Pride and Prejudice's Mrs Bennet push her daughters on to Mr Col-

seem

lins and Mr Bingley, but Mary Hooper, 36, a script executive who works for various London production companies, says the pressure is still there today. By Jane Austen's standards, she would be on the shelf by After all,

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Anne Elliott in Persuasion was virtually beyond redemption at 27. In her twenties, Mary didn't think much about settling down, nor did many of her colleagues. "But as you approach 30 you get paranoid that everyone is pointing out how you're single and they're not I did go through a phase of feeling defensive. If I was invited round to dinner with other couples, I used to get steamed up about the fact that they spent all evening talking about their marriages and children, and yet if they invited me round with other single people I used to feel that they were having a be kind to singles

Mary moved in with her boyfriend within a year of leaving college and split up with him when she was 28. "I

to take but the good thing has been that there are loss of other people in the same boat. I don't know whether it's a London thing but there are so many women building their own other, and I like that. It might be difficult in a smaller place

where everyone is in couples." Suzi Blocham lives in such a place. She is an art teacher who lives in Shropshire and readily describes herself as single. Although Suzi is only 27, she recognises, like Anne Elliott, that marriage is becoming the norm among her friends. "Suddenly there were all these weddings and I realised that more than half the people I knew, probably 60

per cent, were get-ting married - and I was always the 'All my single But Suzi didn't go down this route. friends I had a boyinend when I left college but I'd got the to be chance of this rea ly good job as head women' of art in Shropshire and that was what

I wanted to go for." At 22, Suzi moved from Bath to a small school on the Welsh border and, of necessity, embraced an independent lifestyle, which has been a challenge but a thoroughly

enjoyable one. Although she has lots of male friends, Suzi has noticed of late that they're all married. "All my single friends seem to be women!" she says. "But it's not a big issue. I don't mind being called Miss and I tick the box marked 'single' quite happily."
At 27, Suzi doesn't have that

awful anxiety about her bio-logical clock ticking away. which can plague some older women. The greatest problem she finds with being single is not having anyone to talk to when she gets home. "My phone bill is not a pretty sight:



Suzi Bloxham, 27, with a portrait of her grandmother. "She's always saying she doesn't want to see me left on the shelf or that it's her dearest wish to see me settled"

with other teachers because they're all caring and interes-ted people and I feel I've made lots of friends up here."

Having turned down one proposal of marriage, Suzi isn't worried that she'll never find a long-term partner. But this is something that Mary has had to come to terms with. The first thing to remember is that it's not the worst thing that can happen to you," she says. "When I see some of my girlfriends with their husbands and children I stop and think, would I really change places with them? They never seem to get any sleep or have any time to themselves. And as for sex, to hear them talk you'd think that all that stopped years ago. Maybe I always

do what I want." Seven years of independence have left Mary unsure that she could ever live with anyone else. "I'm so clear how I want to live my life now that I can't see myself making that kind of space for anyone else again. I'd love to have children, but not at any price.

uzi is still young enough to laugh at the problems of not having a Mr D'Arcy or Captain Wentworth in tow, These days when I go to weddings I notice people don't quite know what to do with a single woman who's not a bridesmaid. I find I get put on the 'bits and pieces' table. I don't mind that, but there have been one or two weddings which I've been surprised not

to be invited to. I can only think that's because I didn't fit in with the seating plan." Fortunately, her family has shown no great concern to marry her off. "All except my gran. I'm very close to her but she will keep saying things like she doesn't want to see me 'left on the shelf' or that it's her dearest wish to see me 'settled'. Sometimes she even tells me that she's met this really nice young man and I just know what she's thinking! Fortunately. I've always been able to talk to her and so I explain that I just haven't found anyone I want to settle down with yet. It

simply isn't a problem." But if Suzi is still unmarried in ten years, she may not feel so sure. The problem for her and for Mary is the same as it was for all of Jane Austen's heroines. The world is full of couples and their values dominate our society. Mary says: "If you let yourself get sensitised to it you see it everywhere. Couples on adverts, on TV, even magazines for single women seem to be

all about how to get yourself someone. There was a time when I was very hard on my parents. I used to get irritated if they started fishing for information but I think I'm more relaxed these days. Most women do have long-term

tend otherwise. But that doesn't necessarily make them happier." Adrian Mourby's latest nov-

partners and it's silly to pre-

el, The Four of Us. with published this week (Hodder. £17.99).

#### afterwards, but at least I get to but I'm fortunate working think that made being 30 hard Ruth Gledhill joins a Docklands congregation as members reflect on their marriage vows

come back to an empty flat

## Baptists for better or worse



tre, built 100 years ago as a centre for dockers, mirrors the sweeping changes that have enveloped London's docklands in the last decade. The Quaystone church meets in the tiny, pinkwalled chapel built on the top of the

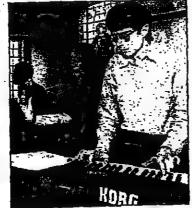
THIS community can

centre, reached through a series of doorways, corridors and an almost-Italianate paved ornamental garden. Its revival under the helmsmanship of the Rev Steve Hill, the enthusiastic 31-year-old Baptist minister who has built the congregation up from four people meeting in a living room, is such that the chapel is now almost too small for the 50 or so regular worshippers. At our service they

included a doctor and his family,

painters and decorators and office

workers from nearby Canary Wharf. Remarkably, almost all were in their thirties or younger. Tmy children sat at their feet, until they were taken to a separate room for Sunday school. We were within striking distance of the City of London but it could have been a missionary outpost in a distant land. There was a strong sense of the type of gritty, pioneering spirit normally associated with the American West. We were at the end of the first ever National Marriage



Rousing music at the Quaystone

Week. Bishops had been warning of the dangers to society of treating marriage as disposable, and urging couples to invest more time and energy in maintaining their marriages. Hundreds of couples throughout the country had been to services to renew their marital vows of lifelong

fidelity But at this service, Mr Hill decided not to have a renewal of vows. In a bid to reflect the society around him, he decided to concentrate instead on the difficulties which can lead to separation and divorce. After a lot of singing, prayers and listening to a

#### AT YOUR SERVICE

🛊 A five-star guide 🛊 MINISTER: The Rev Steve Hill SERMON: Could be summed up as: It crossed in love, don't get cross. turn to the Cross. \*\*\*

ARCHITECTURE: Returbished old chapel, like the surrounding Docklands a strange blend of old and new. \*\* MUSIC: Modern and traditional. \*\* SPIRITUAL HIGH: Full of ups and

downs. \*\*\* AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Constant supply of lea. \*\*\*

couple describe their coming visit to the east on a missionary project to tackle child prostitution, Mr Hill preached on anger amd conflict. What he had to say could be applied to any relationship, not just a marital one, he said. Speaking as someone who has been married for six years, he described taking his wife out for a

meal on Valentine's Day.

After driving fruitlessly around London looking for somewhere to eat (everywhere was full) he found a restaurant with a table but waited 30 minutes for the starter. He and his wife had a row. "She was upset that I

had not booked and reminded me of our honeymoon," he said. "We went for a day out in Paris and ended up on the periphérique and couldn't find our way off it. I blamed Alison because she couldn't read a map. It ended with her getting out of the car and walking off. I drove off and only then realised I was on this one-way system and had no way to get back."

It all ended happily, he reported. "But I am just saying this to show that even on our honeymoon, we were a couple with rows as a natural part of our relationship. But it has not been six years of rows." Conflict in a relationship does not mean that relationship should never have been. Conflict and arguments are there to help us grow and mature and become

more like Christ " He quoted from Ephesians 4.26: "Don't let the sun go down on anger," He continued: "The Bible says relationships should be characterised by peace." He warned against repression or explosion as methods of dealing with anger. Instead, measured confrontation was the answer, outlined in Proverbs 15.1: "A gentle answer turns away wrath but a harsh

word stirs up anger."

• Quaystone Christian Church. Dockland Settlement Centre, 197 East Ferry Road, Isle of Dogs. London E14 3BA. Tel: 0171-538 5618



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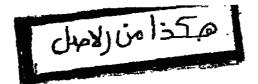
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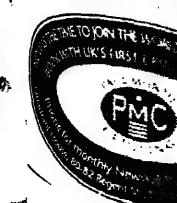














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# Iravel

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The East Alligator escarpment in Kakadu (above) guards a wikderness of stunning beauty containing a multitude of wildlife in the swamps of the Yellow Waters (below) and sustaining the ancient hunting lifestyle of the Aborigines

#### hey take crocodiles seriously in the top end of Australia, particularly the estuarine saltwater beasts, the "salties" of film fame. These can grow to 30-odd feet, live to be 100 years old and can take a buffalo and, holding him by the nose, drag him under the

Not that any human has actually been taken by a croc in the Northern Territories since 1987. But with a couple of . dozen saltwater and freshwater crocs to every kilometre (or "ks" as the Australians call them) and some 100 fished out of Darwin Harbour alone during the year, nobody is taking any chances.

Nor can they afford to. The hunters and the farmers may rage against the "greenies and their conservation policy that preserves all the nasties But the quarter-million tourists and backpackers come mainly for the wildlife.

And what a wildlife there is: Kakadu National Park to the south of Darwin is the largest wetlands conservation area in the world, a park the size of Wales with the complete ecolomangrove swamps to paperbark gum trees (surely one of the most beautiful and diverse species of tree in the world) to rainforest, woodland and

granite ranges. We were there at the end of the dry season in October when the water had retreated to the main rivers and a series of permanent lakes, or billabongs, around which the wildlife concentrated in astonishing proximity and abundance. The locals argue that the wet season, when the plains are flooded and everything is unbelievably green and growing. is even more beautiful, even if

the wildlife is more dispersed. To add to all this - an intrinsic part of it, indeed there is the Aboriginal art, nainted with othre, spontaneiry, surprise and mystery on innumerable caves and the rock overhangs of the escarpment that confines the estuari-

# p a gum tree in croc country al system. Some of the paintings are more than 20,000

years old according to the guides - as much as 150,000 according to new discoveries and dating techniques an-nounced last autumn. This caused considerable doubt in the academic community and an outburst of nationalist fervour in the press, eager to reaffirm not just Australia's uniqueness but also its superiority in age and progress to

The prehistoric and the indigenous - flors, fauna and ancient culture - are what Australian eco-tourism is all about, particularly in the Northern Territories which is trying to build its holiday trade on a total view of environmental or "interpre tive" tourism.

Only opened up to exploration within this century and to settlement much more recently, the "Top End" remains still literally tens of thousands of years by one of the most ancient peoples in the world. What makes Australia so exciting, is that their way of hunting and gathering are still

going on - just You can turn your head from examining startlingly fresh rock paintings of sticklike humans and carefully delineated geese and snakes and then look out across the plains, the forests of dozens of different species of eucalyptus (Australia has more than 200) and the bird-filled billabongs. They are unaltered since the original painters had marked the spot and signalled the

game in prehistoric times. You can also look around and see a people pushed aside by a Western tide that has destroyed their social units, introduced them to alcohol with devastating results and made them subject to a degree Australia's 'Top End' is one of the last truly unspoilt wildernesses in the

world. Adrian Hamilton samples the serenity of life by the billabong



of racial prejudice of quite astonishing openness among the older Australian Whites.

Guilt and new appreciation have led in Australia to the environmental correctness and retrospective recompense that is sometimes bizarre in its consequences. The Northern Territories is inhabited by less than I per cent of Australia's population, some 175,000 people, and covers a sixth of its land with an area the size of Britain and France combined. Of that nearly half is owned by the Aborigines.

ast of the wilderness at the Top End belongs to the local peoples and is leased to the government national parks administration and tourist operators. They bring in the visitors whose fees are then used to keep the Aborigines in a dependency economy, meant to preserve their hunting and gathering lifestyles free of the corruption that money always brings. Kakadu is owned by

the Aborigines and shaped like a crocodile. But for a long time its largest hotel, the Gagudiu in the uranium mining town of Jabiru, would not ing room because their dress and habits upset the guests.

Anyone is allowed into the Kakadu and other national parks so long as they keep way from sacred sites and forbidden art locations. Only a few, and then at a price, are allowed into the surrounding Aboriginal tribal lands.

The masses visit the national parks in camper vans or just with sleeping bags or "swags", and plenty of water (essential in the hot season and don't wade into the billabongs to refill if you don't want to become funch for a saltie). The wealthier stay in the luxury hotels and - particularly if they are American or German — fish in areas where conservation policies have made the game plentiful and ready to be caught.

Seven Spirit Bay, a luxury hotel on the Cobourg Peninsula at the northern tip of Arnhem Lane, for example, has octagonal open-sided bedroom units and separate bathrooms under open sky that fulfil every dream of melding into the wilderness. On the other hand, it can only be reached by small aircraft and costs more than £200 per person a day/night visit.

agenarian complained: how could they restrict his luggage to get on the biplane? After much argument, he left three suitcases but insisted on bringing one essential piece of equipment - his exercise bike. And yet our stay at the hotel was idyllic — good food, well organised walks, fine views of the sea. Oh, how one longed for a quick dip if one could only brave the cross or the killer box jellylish that come in for the wet season.

There are plenty who will sell you with a knowing nod how the only "real" experience is in going to the Aborigina Arnhem Land and the tribal areas that surround Kakadu But then you would miss the glories of the wetlands and Kakadu, a huge area with plenty of space to roam and -like American national parks - a ranger system that is there for the ordinary citizen. There is no snobbery among Australians. The backpacker is well

the time and the money to take a trip into Arnhem Land with the small number of fourwheel-drive tours that take up

most of the visitor permits, then you are in for something very special. Arnhem Land is huge and empty, the silence is full of bird cries and animal with the spirit and culture of the place, able to visit art and

billabong in an eerie peace. The number of truly indigenous Aborigines in the area can be numbered in hundreds, perhaps a few thousand at most, in a country the size of Scotland, so the "native guides" who accompany you on tours or walks are usually from other states and are rarely pure Aboriginal. The guide on the East Alligator River turned out to be from the Tiwi islands with an English father and a half-Philippine good, none the less.

It pays, and costs, to try to enter into the spirit of Australia, for all that most Australians live in cities or their suburbs. Darwin is an excittown, half-backpacker, half-California style new marinas, with some internationalclass hotels like the Beaufort on the esplanade, some good

restaurants and wonderful

sunsets. But it is for the outback that one comes to Australia - particularly in the Northern Territories.

This state stretches from the tropics in the north to the "red heart" of central Australia at Alice Springs, a couple of thousand miles south. Staying on the land is the only way to

own in the south we stayed in Bond Springs Station, a century-old, 750,000-acre property outside Alice Springs. Here the round-up is done by helicopter, the boilerman had been flown up from Melbourne to install the Aga shipped directly from England (within a few hours he had embarked on a fling with the girl from the abat-toir); the election officials had come with a portable cardboard voting booth to make sure everyone did their demo-National Party candidate was an Aboriginal made good in the prison service and was objecting to more handouts for

kha officer from Zimbabwe. However, the other property we stayed in at El Questro Station, in the north of Westem Australia, was a luxury

his people); and the guide on a

breathtaking night of bird-

watching was a former Gur-

homestead on a million-acre ranch owned by an Old Etonian. You could stay in accommodation ranging from tents to cabins or the owner's ranch house perched spectacularly above a gorge. The landscape was red rock, with scattered minerals (you can chip away in what they call fossicking" where there is a permit), hot springs and the primeval shapes of the baobab

The property's "native guide" turned out to be a highly decorated part-Aighan veteran of the Vietnam War and the cattle driver called Buddy with a pair of bowed legs you could drive a "mob" of cows through. A genuine stockman, he made his living by appearing in rodeos with two six-shooters or a whip ("the Genuine Aboriginal Cowboy from Australia" as they billed him in the United States) and also modelling jeans in fashion shoots.

"They had us there, me and three models" he recalled, pointing to a big rock in the river. "And the photographer said 'Buddy, for heaven's sake don't tell the girls there's crocs as the girls splashed in the water. But I did make sure my mate kept a rifle under a blanket close by.

"I told him: 'If anything moves in the water, don't wait. Just blast it.' By God, they were angry when I told them

The author was a guest of the Northern Territory Tourist

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Northern Territory Tourist Commission, Beaumont House, Lambton Road, London SW30 OLW 10181-944 2992). The Travel Portfolio Limited, 73 Churchgate Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk 1P33 1RL (01284 762255), offers ailormade tours to northern Australia: example, ten days from 1922 per person, based on two sharing, including economy this and three-star hotels. Singapore Airlines (0181-747 0007) flies from London to Darwin, viz Singapore, from E704. Qanias (0345 747767) flies from London to Darwin via Singapore from £757. Bus and four-wheel-drive lours can be arranged by the Darwin Region Tourism Association, 35 Smith Street Mali (089 814 300), Kakadu Air Services, Darwin, runs flights to Kakadu and tours, including one day tours into Arnhem Land. Stavs in Arnhem Land can be organised in Darwin from about A\$500 (£141) a might).



Spirit Bay (89 790 277) costs from A\$299 per person a night in high season (April 1-Oct 31) or from A\$249 low scason (Nov )-Mar 31), includes three meals a day and cost of an access permit to Aboriginal lands.

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Outback Pioneer Hotel to

catered for. However, if you can afford Northern Territory (Lonely

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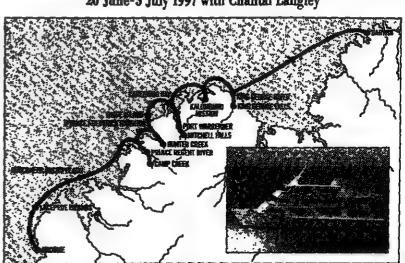
We shall limit our party size to just 42 passengers. All cabins are spacious and individually air-conditioned, have outside views and private shower and toilet. Other facilities include two comfortable lounges har, TV and video, large sun and observation deck and spa. The food on board is freshly prepared by fully qualified chefs and served with a fine selection of Australian wines. For our lorgy ashore the comes equipped with a specially designed high-powered encursion host and Zodiacs.

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## Mexico: At sea, treasures of the reef Jacques Cousteau revealed; on land, ancient architectural heritage . .

هِ كَذَا مِن رِلَامِكُ



# Diving with the god of the Mayas

#### COZUMEL FACT FILE

■ Continental Airlines (0800 776464) files to Cozumel via an overnight stop in Houston from E60S return. British Airways (0345 22211) flies from Heathrow or Gatwick to Miami (overnight stop) from £367 return connecting with Mexicana Airways to

Cozumer from \$154 retain.

If the Hotel Presidente Inter-Continental (0345 581444 local rate in UK) is Coxumer's only five-star hotel. Its 1997 charges are from £38 per room, including tax. Lower priced hotels are found in the island's only town. Check with the Mexican Tourist Office (0171-

Global Travel Club (01268 541732) custom designs holidays in the Yucatan from £1,345 per person for seven days to £1,800 for 14 days, depending on standard of accommodation and services required, flying from the UK Cathy Mathos Mexican



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ccording to Mayan legend the Caribbean island of Cozumel . 12 miles off Mexico's Yucatan peninsula was the home of Inchel, goddess of love and fertility. Today, it is better known for spectacular diving around the world's second largest coral reef. Above the water, equally spectacular Mayan pyramids and temples are no more than a couple of hours travelling time away.

When I walked through the door of the secluded Hotel Presidente Inter-Continental the concierge greeted me by name with a glass of champagne. This is something I could become accustomed to. Below my bedroom's firstfloor balcony a xizo kaaho, a blackbird with a long black beak, anorexic body and long tail, squawks and struts on long spindly legs across a palm-fringed powdery white beach and over to the large swimming pool with connectproceeds to drink.

The range and quality of the food in the hotel's two restaurants - the indoor El Arrecife, with panoramic views of the turquoise Caribbean, and the beachside El Caribeno, sheltered beneath a roof thatched with the huano palm to form a Mayan palapa - puncture tions about Mexico, its limited cuisine. So do the national

But the main attraction for visitors is the reefs, revealed by Jacques Cousteau in 1954. Clemente, one of the PADI divernasters of Scubadu, which operates out of the hotel, suggested I didn't need a wetsuit for the dive to the Santa Rosa Wall. These Mexicans are some tough guys, thought I, it just has to be cold that far down. Wrong again on the second count.

After a 40-minute boat ride from one of the hotel's two piers, we dropped into water with a temperature of 86F: 90ft below it was only four degrees cooler, warmer than my local

The state of the s



A fisherman hauls in his eatch offshore at Yucatan

Reef, two long ridges of coral rising above white sand 40ft below the surface. The strong

current carried us past green

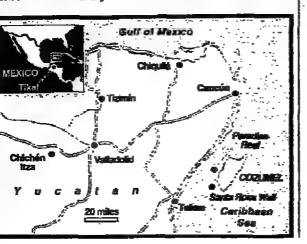
knobbly star corals, corals looking like giant brown

brains, corals resembling deli-

indoor heated swimming pool. The visibility is so good that close, and then you glide over the edge of a white sandy plateau to peer down a vertical wall that disappears into an abyss 3,000ft deep. It's the nearest to a space walk that

I've experienced.
The top 10ft of the wall is coral reel riddled with caves. grottoes, and tunnels. Accompanied by large inquisitive yellow-firmed and black groupers, we rode the current to explore sturning coral but-tresses, still vividly coloured even at this depth. Inside the caves, our torches illuminated giant sea fans amid purple vase, yellow tube, and brown rope sponges, while one long narrow tunnel was lined with

blood red sponges.
The second of the two-tank dives took us to the Paradise



of a spotted moray emerged snake-like from beneath a ledge and snapped its sharp teeth at my hand. Bach dive is different. All provide a multitude of multicoloured and multishaped fishes, corals and sponges. Even snorkelling ten yards out from the hotel beach showed a greater variety of marine life in 20 minutes than had a week's diving in the Aegean Sea. And for those who don't want to wet their feet, a trip in a glass-bottomed boat provides the next best

emerience. You can use the air-conditioned luxury of the hotel as a base from which to visit all the principal Mayan sites by day trips. But I opted for a guided tour of the Yucatan peninsula which began at Tulum, the only walled city by the sea that the Mayas built. Its most impressive building is the Castillo, a limestone pyramid topped by a temple, which perches on the highest point on the peninsula, a bluff about 40ft above the beach. The

wind, and a host of others. I

stopped to examine a pillar

coral, and the first nine inches

region is very flat. A recurring motif carved on many of the city's 60 buildings is a god whose legs project from above his head. This is referred to as the Diving God, or the God Descending from

the Sky, or the God of Birth. or ... Interpretations of Mayan origins and culture equal the number of investigating archaeologists multiplied by the number of surviving Mayas. This is due primarily to Fray Diego de Landa, second Bishop of Yucatan. With the enlightenment of a Franciscan conquistador, Landa realised that the snake venerated by the Mayas was none other. than the serpent who tempted. Eve to sin in Paradise. And so

he set about exterminating all

Mayan writings and traces of

their history, and religion.

ortunately, he failed to destroy the greatest testament to Mayan: expertise in mathe matics, astronomy, sculpture, architecture, and construction. Chichen Itza was the principal place of pilgrimage for some 200 Mayan settlements scattered across the Yucatan, Guatemals, Belize, and northern Honduras, although by the 10th century it was dominated by more warlike Toltecs from central Mexico.

A singular advantage of staying at a hotel near Chichén liza is that you have about two hours to wander over the site before the coachloads of day trippers arrive. At quarter past eight in the morning I stood alone in the temple of the plumed serpent, Kukulkan, which is

built on top of a gyramid made of nine stacked square platforms of decreasing size such that the slope of the pyramid is

exactly 45 degrees. Below me, two eagles glided over the carpet of jungle that stretches to the horizon in every direction, pierced to the south by the white limestone dome of the Observatory. To the west of the clearing at the foot of the pyramid lies the Temple of the Jaguars, attached to one of the two long, high parallel walls that form the Ball Court. To the east the Temple of the Warriors stands atop a pyramid that rises from the Terrace of a Thousand Columns. And to the north a straight limestone path cuts through the jungle to the Sacred Well, into which sacri-

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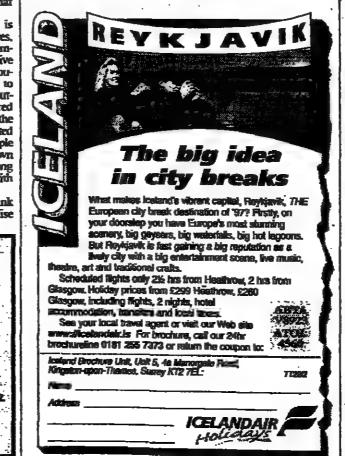
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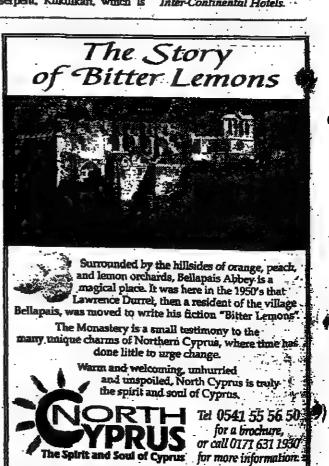
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ficial victims were cast. From this vantage point it is easy to imagine the power of the priests over the throngs of Mayan pilgrims below, especially at the spring and auturnn equinoxes. At sunset on these days the northwestern terraced edge of the pyramid casts an undulating shadow which joins the sculpted serpent's tail at the top of the northern ramp to the serpent's head at the bottom: Kukulkan is descending from his temple.

JOHN HANDS

• The author was a guest of





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# 

reddish-brown. It had to be done - a spoonful sprinkled on the tortilla. then swamped with plenty of spicy guacamole, stringy cheese, anything else that might usefully disguise the

If you want to return to Oaxaca, you must ear grass-hopper. And after a couple of days in this enticing place there was no question. We chewed the chapulines (actually not bad) and moved on to the more mouthwatering items on the table.

Oaxaca - pronounced Wahaka - is a southeastern state of Mexico with the reputation of being culturally fasci-nating but a poor relation. The national Government worries about occasional rebellious eruptions, but visitors do not. If your ideas of Mexico are

largely confined to Zapata moustaches, revolutions and the writing of Graham Greene, you should not be put off. Greene may have hated Mexico's poverty and corruption but Oaxaca does not figure in his marvellous novel The Power and the Glory. Nonetheless, when you enter the stupendous gold interior of the church of Santo Domingo and are exhorted to "remember the needy", the Catholic dilemmas of the novel come to

"One of the most extravagantly gorgeous churches in the world," said Aldous Huxley. We just sat in the pews and gawped. A brief unseasonal shower fell outside and men working on the restoration of a dusty convent next door smiled. This was December and it was the first rain

Caxaca city, the eponymous capital of the state, is a delight at Christmas. The zocalo, or central square, is the focal point of the city - actually more of a middle-sized town, with no tall buildings or wide boulevards - and it buzzes at all hours with stall-holders selling rugs, brightly painted wooden carvings, black pottery, leather goods, jewellery, hideous Nativity figures, steaming tamales and bewildering varieties of sweets. One man holding a very thin nib offers: "I write your name on a grain of rice" (irresistible for children with our surname). Women pass with trays piled

Near the zocalo, around the Basilica de la Soledad, stalls stretch down steps, round corners, on and on mixing with funfair rides. At the Plaza de la Danza, 30 flavours of ice

high with govorias, walnut

and burnt sugar cakes.

cream were on sale. Another day we headed off for the market of markets at Ocotlan, 20 miles out of Oaxaca city. Prices seem to be the same for tourists as for locals. People are friendly and do not get difficult if you do not buy. You can spend hours just walking and looking at the produce. Piles of bulging or emaciated chillies, dried hibiscus flowers, green-feathered toucan heads (the birds are trapped by putting glue on the trees), spring onions the size of hilliard balls, goat skins. Even when I discovered that my

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Report Special



wallet had been lifted it was not too upsetting.

Back in Oaxaca that evening there was a Nativity procession in the zocalo led by a young Mary on a beautiful donkey. We crunched past the buñuelos stalls - where you eat fried corn tortillas with a sweet sauce and chuck the bowl over your shoulder so it smashes on the ground as you make a wish - then got

distracted by the dodgerns.

In the distance a youthful brass band was massacring carols outside Santo Domin-go. And the birthday piñatas were out for Jesus, so crowds gathered underneath these star-shaped decorations that were suspended above the street on a rope. A blindfolded volunteer has to whack the piñata with a stick until it smashes, then the goodies inside shower down and a screaming, laughing scrum forms. Our five-year-old refired battered and tearful after the first scramble. The sixyear-old bided her time and got handfuls of sweets from sympathetic teenagers.

e returned to our marvellous hotel. the Camina Real. a beautifully converted convent and undoubtedly the place to stay in Oaxaca if your budget can stand it. In the hall an orchestra played; in the main courtyard the guitars of a mariachi band drifted up and screnaded the children to sleep.
Breakfasts at the Camina

Real are a treat. You soon get used to putting away a plate of pork enchiladas, or perhaps chilaquiles rojoz (reconstitut-ed tortillas with tomato, pepper and sour cream). Not to forget a tamale de mole, wrapped corn cakes smothered in a dark, chocolatey sauce. Mole, an Oaxacan spe-ciality, is a fantastically complex, spicy creation with up to 72 ingredients, including chocolate. This is thousands of miles from the Americanised Mexican food served in Britain. Every morning Leonor would make tortillas on the griddle, while Plutarcho cooked the eggs or bacon if you

were feeling unadventurous.

Monte Alban, a few miles to the west, is the most impressive archaeological site, a plateau created by levelling the top of a hill as long ago as 500 BC and creating a sacred site. Oaxaca state is mostly mountainous, but here three valleys converge. A sacrificial victim in his final moments could look out from here and have a view to die for.

All the buildings sit directly facing or at right-angles to each other except one, presumed to be an observatory. stuck obstinately at 45 degrees. Under the blazing sun Mario,

our guide, drew in the dust with a pointed stick and explained in diagrams how the angles, dates, equinoxes and solstices are perfectly built into the architecture.

A few yards away carvings of hunchbacks. breech births and hydrocephalic eads suggested an early medical school. There are some dark undereround tombs — Number 104 is impressive with its frescoes and maize god over the entrance. A torch would have



a Zapotec site (discovering the layers of pre-Hispanic history and the differences between the 16 existing ethnic groups is one of the pleasures of visiting Oaxaca). It was at its peak between about AD 300 and 700, but deserted by the time the Spanish arrived in 1521.

Compare this with the remains of religious sites in Mitla, a few miles to the east, where the conquistadores, in a crude gesture of domination. made the native indians build a church over their temple and forced them to worship the Christian God. Only later did archaeologists discover that

the Indians had placed their own idols inside the walls. Yugal is another splendid site, if your appetite for ruins is still sharp, with its large restored ball court. In this amazing sporting ritual, dating back at least 1,500 years, a game of five-a-side was played between two teams, the idea apparently being to keep the ball in the air using convenient hips, elbows, knees and shoulders. The stakes were high. Either the winning or the

losing captain (depends who you talk to) was sacrificed. Our guide offered the view that it must have been the winners who were sacrificed. He bases his theory on today's Mexican athletes who, in the Olympic Games in Atlanta. did not win any gold medals, presumably through fear of having their hearts cut out. A week was not enough in

#### OAXACA FACT FILE

■ The author travelled to Mexico City via Madrid on Iberia (0171-830 0011). Return flights from Heathrow via Madrid cost £407 plus tax until July 14, then E538. British Airways (0345 22211) files to Mexico City for E439 plus tax until March 20, then £655.

Internal flights from Mexico City to Oaxner city cost £108 return. Caxaca to Hustuleo £89

■ Where to stay: Camina Real hotel, Calle 5 de Maya 300, 68000 Oaxaca (double room from Hotel Hostal de La Noria, Ave Hidalgo 918. Attractive, good atmosphere, central location

(double from US\$32 plus tard.

local liquor, mescal, being

Cox and Kings (017)-873 5000) has a Land of the Maya 13-day tour, including three days in Oaxaca, starting at £1,795.

Journey Latin America (0181-747 8315) does escorted group trips (a 14-night trip, including Oaxaca, costs from £1,640 per person in a twin

room) or individually tailored itineraries. Kuoni's (01306 742222) Mexica Panorama is an II-day escorted tour, including two nights in Oaxacs, and an additional four nights in

Oaxaca zocalo. Specialises in moles, red. yellow El Patio, between Teotifilan and Mitla, New

restaurant in courtyard. Excellent enpanada

■ Best museums in Oaxaca city: Museo Re-gional de Oaxaca next to Santo Domingo (bril-liant Mixtec treasures). Museo Ruftao Tamavo (ore-Hispanic artefacts).

■ Tourist office in Oaxaca: (00 52 951) 4 28 37 Mexican Ministry of Tourism, 60-61 Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DS (017)-734 1058).

Essential: take a pocket Spanish dictionary.

Cancún is a holiday resort on the eastern fringes of Mexico's Yucatán penínsuala. There, on a narrow skein of land ribboning between turquoise seas and a soupy lagoon, vast hotels have descended like spaceships. At night, under the splintered stars of a tropical sky, they glimmer early, casting a slick of light over the dark waters. By day they hum with the hustle of the tourist trade, The palm-thatched villages of Yucatán's native culture have been erased. Mexican traditions

have been ransacked and drained almost dry.

Downtown Cancun is like some time-trapped land where every night can be Saturday. It bristles with restaurants and nightclubs, discos and bars. You can dine on food from almost any part of the world from Portugal to Polynesia. But it is the stamp of the United States which is strongest. Mexican food, where you can find it, is good. Small cales offer an economical comida corrida (set lunch) where spicy Yucatán dishes such as pollo pibil (chicken cooked in banana leaves) or succulent fresh seafish are served with side dishes of chile, avocado and tortillas,

Native Mayan culture has been reduced to a consumer commodity in Cancun. Its last tawdry remains linger amid the tourist tat of shopping malls: silver jewellery and woven blankets, carved wooden masks and painted pottery. However, a short drive away the ruined cities of a pre-Hispanic people can still be found, as unearthly in their own way as Cancún.

It is best to get to Chichen Itza early in the morning. From

about 10am, coachloads of other visitors begin to arrive. Overweight Texans haul themselves up the temple stairways like weight-warchers on some Mayan Stepmaster. One can imagine the ancient past when files of Maya priests in feather headdresses would zigzag slowly to the pinnacles of sacred pyramids. Then, to the faithful who worshipped from afar, they would look like the great plumed serpent Quetzalcoati. The only plumed serpent I saw was on the road back. A vast python had been crushed by a coach. Vultures were already devouring it.

RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON

The author was a guest of Sunset Holidays



Cancun: Mexican traditions have been ransacked

## Or try Huatulco

The guidebooks described Huatulco, the beach resort on the I south coast of Oaxaca state, as "the new Cancin". Mexico may be the destination for 1997, but Huatulco is earmarked as its resort of the millennium. The setting is beautiful, as the Mexican government noticed when it decided that Huatulco was the latest big project: nine bays, ripe for development over the next two decades. But today the comparison with Cancun is way off the mark. The hotels (only a handful so far, all upmarket) are no higher than six storeys. The water is clean. There are only 1,832 rooms in the whole resort.

There has been no mad scramble to build. Access to Huatulco is difficult. There is an airport but the road down from Oaxaca is tortuous and takes seven hours. A large road is planned but may years away. Also, foreign investment enthusiastic as was hoped. When you ask who is building the next hotel, the director of development smiles and shrugs.

Huatulco is not for people who are interested in Mexico. Apart from indifferent shopping in La Crucecita or Santa Cruz (both new towns), you are in international country and likely to have chosen it for the high-quality hotels, beaches and activities. There

are no historic sites within close range.

We stayed at the comfortable Royal Maeva, a sort of glorified Club Med, where at Christmas 60 per cent of guests were Canadian, 20 per cent were American and most of the rest Mexican or Guatemalan. For all-inclusive rates you get room, food, drink and activities, including tennis, snorkelling, scuba diving, sailing and windsurfing. The food was pleasant but bland after the delights of proper Merican cuisine in somewhere like Oaxaca city. The staff were superb. The sun blazed down.

The children, from infants to teenagers, adored it. The adults enjoyed themselves too, but would have preferred somewhere more Mexican and less purpose-built. West along the coast is Puertio Escondido, a complete contrast - more Mexican, more interesting. The Santa Fe hotel is the place to stay, overlooking Zicattefa Beach. Along the coast at Mazunte is a successful turtle research and conservation centre (turtles lay thousands of eggs along this coast) and Manialtepec lagoon is a peaceful getaway.

TIMOTHY RICE

 Royal Maeya, PO Box 227, Bahias de Huatulco, Oaxaca 70989, Mexico. Until April 6. a double room costs US\$120 per person per day, all-inclusive. Variable according to season.



A sophisticated carving at Monte Alban

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various fine museums. We were off to Huatulco, on the Oaxacan coast, for some sand and sea. The children were happy ("not another market"). We did not want to leave. But at least, thanks to the grasshoppers, we would be back.

TIMOTHY RICE

The author was a guest of the Mexican Ministry of

#### WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 27 ASHRAM

(c) In India, a place of religious retreat, sanctuary, or hermitage. Hence ashramite, an occupant of an ashram. From the Sanskrit ā near to, towards + srama exertion, earnest endeavour. "The traditional ashram is built of wattle and mud, and its roofs are of

(b) Stylish, smart. Hence dossily. Cf. the Scottish doss neat, spruce, dossie small, neat, a well-dressed person. "What with the ladies' bonnets and blokes' dossy hats."

(b) A Tibetan temple or monastery. From the Tibetan and Jäschke dgön-pa, a solitary place, a hermitage. The monastery is named in Tibetan Gón-pa, vulgarly Góm-pa, or a solitary place or hermitage; and most monasteries are situated at least

some distance off from villages."

(a) A female aboriginal Indian in Guiana. From the Guiana Dutch bokin, the female of bok a goot or buck. They called her a buckeen; how much prentier than the word squaw.



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me in

## Jane Reed finds that life is never too short to stuff a mushroom during a cookery course in southern Italy

# Lessons from pasta masters

way just to buy this Italian cookbook?". said the nephew. dicking through it dismissively. It was Sunday. As usual I was cooking lunch at home for him, the nieces, the wives, boyfriends, their friends and as many of the family who were up.

I opened the oven door and gust of steam filled the kitchen, "Well? What is it then?" said one, sniffing the air. "Agnello e patate al forno:" There was a pause. "That's just roast lamb and potatoes," said the one who did a GCSE in menu Italian. Yes." I said.

Well, it was. But I hoped they would notice the difference. This was a Puglian-style roast lamb and potatoes, a dish of the region of Puglia which I had just visited on a week's cookery course at great expense with one of the nieces and an old friend.

I had to admit that what was on the serving plate didn't look exactly cordon bleu. Puglian food is rustic, no doubt about it. No towers of mousselines. elegant jus or coulis. This was just cubes of lean lamb that fell apart at the touch of a fork. with chunks of waxy, roasted potatoes, little roasted tomatoes, breadcrumbs, grated pecorino, finely chopped fresh oregano, rosemary and flat-lear parsley, the obligatory drizzle of olive oil, some white wine and water, in the oven for a little over an hour. "Now that's what i cali local culture," sighed the niece's partner who as of this minute will inherit my entire fortune. "You can keep all the museums, galleries and churches. This is

what you go abroad for." I suppose the success of a cookery-course holiday has to be judged by the quality of the atons. (Or mending the shower in my bathroom, come to Ostuni, the nearest small

FACTFILE

(0171-401 8763/0181-208 0112).

Courses are held in Umbris between May II and July 29 and in Puglia between Aug 24 and

London NW10 1HW

Oct 2. There are 16-20 places available each week

and group and single

including return flights

food and wine, a one-

transfers in Italy (or E925 excluding flights

praise like that - and more for the pesche ripiene, made by the neice who travelled with

things like no hot water, not

enough hands-on cooking or

explanation about the region. And yes, I would have liked

you tend to forgive

s are welcome. The

Taranto

town to our course, was the half Moorish fortification, half Harlow New Town. It was September, the temperature in the 70s, and technically out of season. We tried to blend unobtrusively into a warm, wet Wednesday afternoon to watch the town wake from its siesta around 4.30; we jumped out of the way of the armada of boy students on Lambrettas racing out of school, the beautiful young girls gigging as they go by: we downed an espresso with a slice of torna di ricotta at the corner coffee bar. Living the life. Or pretending to. I have often wondered il Italian holidaymakers hang out in Truro or Slough trying

nonchalantly to look British. On Saturday morning you mill around in the impressive market in Ostuni among the wonderful food stalls, trays of fresh, white ricotta, yellowgold wheels of local cheese they encourage you to taste before buying; ten tubs of different olives, of capers in salt or wine vinegar, long red chillies, big yellowy-green pep-pers, tornatoes — still dusty from the vine. We bought far more than we could consume

or give away.
And who were we? What sort of people go on cookery courses in southern Italy? The niece had money on the fact that she would be the youngest on the course by 20 years and she lost.

Eighteen of us in all, with some common threads. We were all interested in food. liked cooking, and clearly knew rather a lot about it:

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and the company of th

played practical jokes, got merry on orange-coloured Campari cocktails. We diligently rolled water-thin slices of grilled courgette around little chunks of salty local cheese and stuffed endless arrays of fruit and vegetables. The Puglian way of life is not too short to stuff a mushroom you see, or a courgette, or an

> But it was the sexy way Tonino (the local chef and restaurant owner who worked alongside Susanna) in one fluid movement smashed the garlic with the flat of his knife. then chopped it, the tip of the knife never leaving the chop-ping board, that made us breathe a little faster; and the tips (or "teeps" as they became known) that we picked up from Tonino, Susanna and the

en. A journalist, she found hoys behaving badiy! Well, the first night Simon, Mark, Neil and Chris played bar backing in London for a scheme that would blend her passion for cooking with a yearning to explain to the football until dawn and drank world the many blessings of anything they could find in the the Italian lifestyle. Six years terrace bar - a heady combiago after she opened her first nation of Coke, Campari, beer, cookery school in Umbria, she wine, peach nectar, strange pened another in Puglia. This brandles — with a few hand one is a very different kind of ers-on and chef Tonino. At 5am Tonino, by all accounts, school - more rustic, very informal, more a holiday thansuddenly got up, donned his a cookery course. You are

invited to purchase Sus-annah's excellent book and a very reasonable five-litre can of olive oil at the end of the Our day went like this: after breakfast we watched Susannah and Tonino cook lunch, with occasional help from us. After hunch we slept: then we

places of local interest, and finally returned to watch Tomino cook our supper. The best trip was a day out in the old city of Lecce, to see the renowned food market, the rococo cathedral and to nicnic in a city park. The local dogwalkers are used to seeing these crazy English people every Wednesday laying out a table with frittata, rice salad; wine, crusty bread, and grapes bought in the market. I think we sang in the coach going home. The Swedes have a

bundled into mini-vans to visit

"Home" was a 15th-century castle, La Spagnulo, crum-bling and beautiful and highly recommended in a book on bed and breakfast in Italy, its chapels and storerooms now converted into ensuite rather minimalist bedrooms (with rather minimalist plumbing). You remember the castle in the last scene of the last Godfather film where he falls

off his chair, dead? Well, La

Spagnulo was a bit like that,

bouncy and peculiar road song about sitting in the back of cars and hoping not to

table and made them all

spaghetti in truffle oil with chillis. Just like that. They

came into class the next day

clutching beads, herb teas, jugs of water and blue chins.

And then did it again the next

AGA IOIGISTIF BUILL

10-20

SLEED GIVES

night. Their women were, of

sweetly between gritted teeth

as they jabbed their rolled

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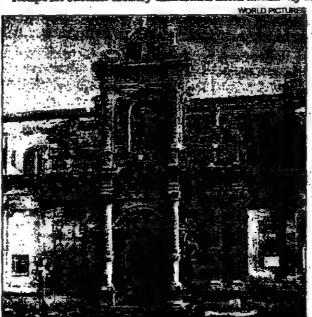
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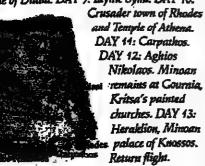
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to know more about Puglia in the heel of Italy and its And the friend and I expected it would be all women contents because it was different. Olive groves from the distant hills to the water's and it wasn't. There was Betty and her daughters, of course Betty, 76, is very pretty, tall and slim with thick white, edge; stone walls, small fields, more olives. It's not as develbobbed hair, and this was her oped as it would be farther north. The Puglian mentality third time in Puglia.. The young Scottish couple centres on domani - they were accountant and systems analyst respectively. They tried to book the room beautifully photographed in the brochure for the course at La Spagnulo, but discovered it was used exclusively by Susanna Gelmetti, the course's inspiration and executive cook. They were disappointed and would have taken off after a few days had we not all got here were two rather similar, attractive couples from the home counties. They knew a lot about cooking and IN THE SHADOW OF THE MINOTAUR. eating out. They had productive gardens and went on mushroom- and truffle-hunt-13 Days: 11-23 September - Turkey & Greece ing weeks. One of the hushands broke out of the mould and joined the "boys behaving badly" group, about which So watching Susanna press Then there were the Swedpate sucre into cake tins for ish ladies from Wimbledon and Malmo, and the retired half an hour on the first evening left us all a little flat. But with that unquenchable headmistress, Elizabeth, who we all called Myrtle (doo't British spirit, we made light of it in a mustart-grumble sort of

way.

We made light of the many small arritations of any holiday; we laughed a lot, did the conga round the pizza oven,

aubergine, or a somato... Rome and Sicily other guests.

Susanna is a rather dramatic 34-year-old Italian of, I think, grand parentage but who seems to have spent much of her childhood in the kinch-

# Switzerland: Shaken but not stirred, the skiing village of Grindelwald once played host to James Bond

# One more gluhwein before I hit the slopes



with a touch of class you cannot beat the Swiss mountain vilresort of Grindelwald. Tucked between the feet of the Eiger, Jungfrau and Wetterhorn mountains, Grindelwald and the surrounding area have more than 270km of ski runs. These include the slopes of the Jungfrau, Mount First. Mannlichen and, 30 minutes' drive away, the mighty Schilthorn it also offers skiers of all levels plenty to choose from - not to mention stunning views, fine hotels and enjoyable après-ski

Last year saw the start of the Swiss airline Air Engiadina's flights from London's City Airport to Bern. This allows you to depart from Docklands in London at 8.05am and arrive in Bern in under two hours. Another hour's drive to the hotel in Grindelwald, and you can be on the slopes by

The resort has a selection of places to stay but if you want to spoil yourself the five-star Grand Hotel Regina is a must. Situated across the street from the Jungfrau railway station. the starting point for many spectacular excursions through the region, the hotel enjoys a central position in the village, it also has a colourful history (former guests include the Beatles, Margaret Thatcher and a "canaveral" of Nasa astronauts) and a splendid restaurant -- I recommend the bouiliabaisse.

he people of Grindelwald pride them-selves on the region's outstanding natural beauty and a key to this clean, pollution-free environment is the Jungiraubahnen, a cog railway that runs the 12km (straight through the Eiger and Mönch mountains) to the Jungiraujoch, Europe's highest railway station at about 11,333ft above sea level. Here you will find the Sphinx meteorological station, ice Palviews across the awesome Aletsch glacier. The glacier looks pristine and deceptively inviting but temperatures can

drop to -20C. Two stops below the Jungfrau summit, 40 minutes above Grindelwald, is Kleine Scheidegg, the centre for all ski activity on the Jungfrau. Based at the foot of the notorious Eiger, Kleine Scheidegg is the hub for more than colourful encampment for many a giùhwein bar. This is vital to warm the cockles and to supply that essential courage only the Dutch know so

A 30-minute drive from Grindelwald and then 30 minutes again in a four-stop cablecar and you arrive at the Schilthorn summit. At 9,900ft above sen level is the restaurant made famous for its role



Kleine Scheidegg, high above Grindelwald, is based at the foot of the Eiger and is the centre for more than 98km of ski runs; it also accommodates many a cosy glubwein bar



#### FACT FILE

The author was a guest of The Leading Hotels of the World. For reservations call 0800 181 123 (toll free). At the Grand Hotel Regina (004) 36 54 54 55) prices start from £197 per night for a double room without breakfast. An "Alpine Adventure" stay (minimum of two nights) costs £233 per night for a double room including breakfast, one evening meal and an excursion to

Air Engladina (0345 666777) flights from City Airport to Berne cost 189 weekday return. £209 at weekends.

Ski passes for five days cost £102. Ski hire. arranged by the hotel. from £68 for five days.

濿 Grindelwald Tourist Office (004) 36 54 12 12).



Views from the Eiger

in the James Bond film On Her Majesty's Secret Service. Taking lunch in the solarpowered, revolving restaurant, which moves through 360 degrees in one nour. affords majestic views over Mont Blanc, the Bernese Alps and the Black Forest on Germany's central plain. Naturally, I chose a vodka martini for

Shaken but not stirred, intrepid skiers can set forth on an excellent black run through a testing field of moguls that starts just outside the restaurant. After a mile or so the moguls disappear and merge into the gentler slopes of Birg. the next cable-car stop down from the Schilthorn, which provides calmer skiing.

The slopes on the Schilt-horn, all 50km of them, open at 9.30am but beginner and intermediate skiers will find the skiing here a little more challenging than on the Jungfrau. The only drawback to the Schilthorn is the T-bar lift at the bottom of the Engetal run

beneath Birg. It is more de-manding than the ski down and calls for better technique. As on the Jungfrau, ski-lifts

close at 4.30pm.
The après-ski in Grindelwald includes the usual collection of shops, bars, restaurants and clubs. The Old Spotted Cat club fturn right out of the Grand Hotel Regina and walk 500 yards up the main street) opens early and closes late, providing skiers with the chance to dance away any remaining energy until the small hours.

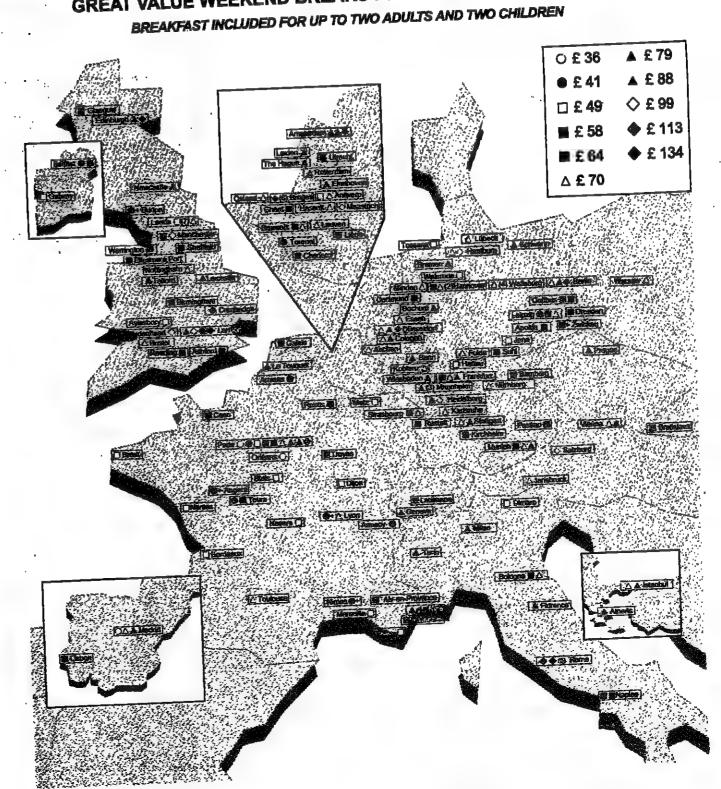
One activity that must be attempted is the Bussalp sledge-run every Sunday evening. The organisers provide the sledges and coaches leave from Grindelwald's central square, next to the ice sculpbetween 7.30pm and 9pm. After a traditional and amply fortified fondue, the hardy travellers straddle their and sledge the four miles back to Grindelwald.

t takes a good 45 minutes to get down, leaving plenty of time to absorb the views of drifting Alpine snow, cloud-busting spruces and village lights twinkling in the valley below. Or you can simply fall off your sledge every 100 yards in fits of uncontrollable laughter. But do take care that you do not collide with any velogemels. These are wooden bicycle-like devices that have ski-runners in place of wheels. They are a Swiss method of winter transport, unique to the area. Like a long-weekend's skiing in Grindelwald, they are great fun but gone in the twinkling of an

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### Fantasies in Marrakesh

A CAMEL, a mini-maze, swinging beds and an olive press to make your own oil are just a few of the extras that come with CV Travel's (0171-589 0132) exotic offerings in Marrakesh, Morocco. The villa, the Verger de L'Etoile Filante in an oasis of paims just outside the city, is an eccentric 1,001 nights fantasy of nooks and crannies, salons and terraces, a yellow garden with lemon trees, grapefruit and yellow flowers, blue and white gardens and mosaic pool. Two cooks prepare Moroccan and international dishes, and staff will help guests cope with the melee of Marrakesh. The villa sleeps up to 16 and costs

£5,250 per week. Beside a 20-mile lake near Ouarzazate and part of a golf club development (a favourite game with the King), Kasbah du Lac is a villa well placed for trekking, riding in the Atlas Mountains and exploring the desert area of Zagora. It costs from £1,000 per week

for ten people. Among CV Travel's other new properties, Torre Trasita (pictured, right), perched above the Amalfi coast at Positano, is a circular 14th-century Saracen tower converted to three apartments each costing from £405 per week,

#### Faster tracks

WORK on the first Pri7 billion phase of the TGV-Est high-speed railway line from Paris to Alsace will start early next year with the 270-kilometre section to Vandières, south of Metz, due for completion in 2004. This will reduce the present four-hour journey from Paris to Strasbourg to two hours 30 minutes. Reims to 45 minutes and Nancy and Metz to one hour 30 minutes. The TGV-Est will also bring journey times between Paris and Frankfurt down to three hours 40, to Munich to four hours 50 and Berlin to six hours 30.

#### Dubrovnik day

THE first British carrier to operate to Dubrovník airport since 1991 is the charter airline Palmair (01202 299299). It will fly there from Bournemouth on March 5 for a special day trip costing £159 to include a guided tour of the city. Flight time is three hours.

I found it a heartening experi ence to walk the city's mellow walls recently to check on restoration work of damage suffered during the siege between October 1991 and May 1993 (on December 6 alone, 600 shells fell on the city); the shrapnel holes in the Stradun, one of the world's finest high streets, are now undetectable, with roofs, fountains and façades restored and many hotels up and running. Palmair will also offer week-long holidays in Dubrovnik in September from £399 halfboard at the Hotel Excelsion.

#### Greek treks

MOUNTAIN biking in the Mani, river trekking, walking, wading, swimming and canyoning (abseiling past waterfalls) in the south-ern Pindos, and exploring lesserknown islands by rubber inflatable, are among the adventure holidays in off-the-beaten-track Greece offered by Sunvil Holidays (0181-568 4499). These are run in conjunction with Trekking Hellas, founded by Greek mountain guides ten years ago, the first Greek agency to specialise in adventure tourism.

A week-long Zodiac Adventure explores home waters of the legendary Odysseus around Ithaca. Meganissi and Kalamos, with three nights camping on more remote islands. The trip, including flights and half-board, costs £675 and can be combined with-other Greek holidays.

### Stay in touch

"CAN'T make Delhi", "Let's meet in Beijing", "Need more money" a system of keeping in touch with family and friends travelling the world is offered by Travellers' Connections (0181-286 3065). Sub-scribers are allocated their own numbers and security codes giving access to their own mailbox to collect voice messages left by relatives and friends. Normal elephones can be used, and the cost of the mailbox is £15 for one month, up to £75 for a year.

#### Classic cars

AMONG the festivities to celebrate the 700th anniversary of Monaco and the Grimaidi dynasty, classic cars will race through Monte Carlo on the Grand Prix circuit a week before the big race on May 11. Past winner Stirling Moss is to drive in the race for cars of 1954-1960 vintage, and other races will feature the cars that carried Graham Hill to five wins.



مِكذا من رلامل

### Spring trips

BARGAIN prices from March to the end of May from Kuoni's Limited Editions (01306 740500) incitude five nights B&B in Sri Lanka for £389 (the rainy season starts around the end of April): seven nights in Cancum, Mexico, for £449 and seven nights in Luxor, Egypt, from £299 B&B.

#### Horse work

HORSE-DRAWN caravan holidays for two people through Ireland's Kerry countryside cost from £265 per week per person including ferry crossing, with any

additional passengers going free. Food for the horse is extra, about E10 per beast.

A one-week Shannon River selfdrive cruise for two costs from £235 per person, again with additional passengers going free. Fuel is extra. Both from Cresta Holidays (0990 561814).

### Egyptian opera

VERDI'S Aida is to be performed opposite the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut in Luxor, Egypt, Octo-ber 12-19. The price of tickets for the opera will be from £94-£188, except for the opening night when they cost £125-£188. Reservations from the Cairo Opera House (00

202 342 0601). For further information telephone the Egyptian Tourist Office in London (0171-493

### Do it yourself

FORTY-EIGHT largely self-cater-ing properties in England and Wales are offered in a special brochure from the YHA (01727 845047). Many are on the coast, others are located in the countryside or cities. A family of four can have a week's stay at Conwy in North Wales for a total of £231, while two nights in a hostel near St Paul's in London will cost £149. including breakfast. YHA mem-bership is necessary.

# Rough guides and smooth

The latest guidebooks offer advice on everything from caterpillars to yak milk

nidebooks are fluttering down like autumn leaves in Vallombrosa. In fact, Vallombrosa fust outside Florence and praised by Milton, whom I have just quoted) comes into Walk-ing and Eating in Tuscany and Umbria, an excellent practical guide to routes and local food by Lasdun and and Pia Davis (Penguin, £8.99). 🐇

The Rough Guide series has spread its wings recently, with new or revised books on Cyprus and Vietnam (£9.99 each), Nepal, Ha-waii, Peru and Guatemala B Belize (all E10.99); Ken-

ya and Zimbabwe & Botswana (both these with a wildlife guide in colour, at £11.99) and a fat volume on India at £14.99. This series has al-

ways provided the smooth as well as the rough. It gives expert advice on cheap ways of travelling, but does not miss out on possihilities of greater com-fort, and is thorough and accurate on hist-

ory and art, assuming that all its readers want that. A good example is Greg Ward's account, in the new volume on Hawaii, of the recent "Polynesian Renaissance" of the canoe, with boats going again between the islands with the blessing of Maori elders.

Peru (£10.99) also appears, along with Tunisia (£10.99), and Andalucia and Laos (E9.99 each), in another good series of slightly earlier vintage, the Footprint Handbooks. These are sturdy hardbacks, generally more traditional in approach than the Rough. Guides but crammed with reliable information. In Andaiucia Row-land Mead includes not only the Holy Week processions in Seville, but also the processions of poisonous haired caterpillars which sometimes cross the roads and tracks in spring, with solvice on what to tell the chemist if you

happen to touch one: A successful series in the past fewyears has been the Lonely Planet Travel Survival Kits. Newly pub-lished is a revised edition of its volume on Egypt (EIL99), with up-

to date information on the tombs and other archaeological sites that tourists go to Egypt to see, and an illustrated survey of the local gods and goddesses.

Lonely Planet also publishes

Language Survival Kits, additions to which include a Nepali Phrasebook Ukrainian Phrase-book and Malay Phrasebook (£3.99 each). You can ask how to buy yak's milk in Nepal, and learn to say "I am a postgraduate" in Ukraine. There is also a Rough Guide Phrasebook of Vietnamese (£3.50), which will enable you to

order snails cooked with spices and banana. Travellers want to get the most out of their holidays

these days.
This Way Travel
Guides are short,
pocket-size books in. as they say, "sunny yellow" covers. There is a new one on Sardinia, chesp and cheerful at £2.99. The travel: publisher Brandt has brought out a new edition of Australia and New Zealand by Rail by

Colin Taylor (£10.95). This is a comprehensive account of the rail network, with suggested itineraries through, for example, the Queensland rainforests or past the canyons of the Blue Mountains. It also lists all the special cheap passes, such as the Westrail Premier Discovery Pass (which is not valid, we are carefully informed, for the special Wildflower coach tours).

Such amenities were unknown to the users of the books described in Alan Silitoe's Leading The Blind: A Century of Guidebook Travel, 1815-1911. (Papermac, 29). From Bacdekes, Murray and other guidebooks, Sillitoe has put together a delightful picture of travel in those years, with such contemporary tips as that in small Swiss botels: "Wine is often a source of much version. The ordinary table wines are summines so bad that the traveller is compelled to drink those of a more expensive class, which indeed is the very aim and object of the landlord." This observation may still be true today.

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### Britain: Weekend breaks to Robin Hood country and the city of Charles Rennie Mackintosh

# Merry men in tights

or one who has not drawn a breath, never mind a long-bow, in 700 years, Robin Hood has a bigger follow-ing now than when there was just himself, his merry men and Maid

In our hero's day, Sherwood Forest would have been on the doorstep of our central Nottingham hotel. But the centuries have taken their toll on the greenwood, and one of the best places to see it now is

at the visitor centre near the village of Edwinstowe, about ten miles north of the city.

Sherwood, the legendary home of Robin Hood, was once one of Englands. England's great royal hunting grounds and the visitor centre is in the last remaining part of the old forest. An exhibition, The Legend of Robyn Hode and Mery Scherewode, sets the scene and a nature centre shows why the forest is now a Site of Special Scientific Interest. A small charge for the exhibition includes prize draw questionnaires to amuse the children on the 20-minute waymarked trail to the Major Oak, a majestic medieval specimen reputed to be Robin's favourite hiding place. It is now propped up to support its overarching branches and fenced off to protect its roots from visitors' feet.

The centre has an open-air woodland theatre with an everchanging programme. On the day we visited, Bill Brookman, a man in tights, was presenting Robin Hood Meets the Cosmos, a frenetic interpretation of the outlaw tale placing the legend in the context of life, the universe and just about everything. The children loved him. The grown-ups eventually loved him, too, once they cast off their inhibitions and threw themselves into their impromptu starring roles,

At St Mary's church in Edwinstowe, Robin is said to have wed Marian. A few miles to the south, in the hillside cemetery of Blidworth parish church, is the gravestone of Will Scarlett, while at Papplewick church stands the ancient yew from which Robin cut his first bow and Allen-a-Dale got his

true love. The city of Nottingham itself has much to offer the visitor — much more, in fact, than can be crammed into the longest of long weekends. As many of the attractions are within a few minutes' walk of the city centre, it is advisable, especially for families with young children, to select a central location.

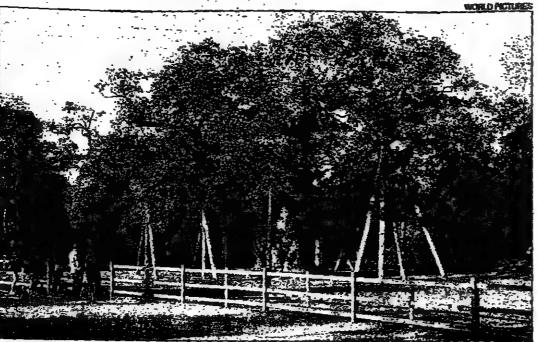
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We found the Royal Most House ideally situated and comfortable, with four restaurants. Nottingham.



Major Oak, a majestic medieval tree that was reputed to be Robin Hood's favourite hiding place

discounted admission to five of the city's most popular attractions. Staying with the outlaw trail, we visited The Tales of Robin Hood on Maid Marian Way. Here, hightech transporter cars take one back 700 years to relive the legend in sight, sound and smell.

Afterwards, you can try your hand at archery as you "shoot the sheriff", or watch a short film that tries to unravel Robin's real

Just around the corner, at the top of Friar Lane, stand the medieval gates to Nottingham Castle, which is not really a castle at all but a fine 17th-century ducal mansion built

on the site of the original Norman fortress and commanding spectacular views. The building now houses one of the finest mus and art galleries in the East Midlands. Tours are recom-mended of Mortimer's Hole, a steep cave through the sandstone rock beneath the museum.

The entrance to the most fascinating glimpse of the city's past is to be found in the modern bustle of the Broad Marsh shopping centre, whose bright lights give way to the cool gloom of the Caves of Nottingham beneath its foundations.

This warren of man-made caves,

shelter, were saved by local voluntary groups when the shopping centre was built. The caves were widely used as pub cellars, the constant temperature (14C) being ideal for storing barrels of beer. The pillar caves are the most impressive, dating from 1250 and containing the remains of Britain's only underground tannery.

earby, in a restored chapel in the historic Lace Market area, is the Lace Hall. Audiovisual presentations and demonstrations of lace-making on a 100-year-old working machine bring to life the story of lace and Nottingham's role in the textile revolution.

In the neighbouring former 19th-century courthouse and county gaol is "Condemned! ... at the Galleries of Justice", a grim flog em and hang em tour likely to satisfy the most ardent devotee of crime and punishment, from a reenactment of a true 19th-century show trial down to the sandstone cave cells known as "the pits".

It was the grown-ups who shuddered the most at the menacing jailer, not the children, who thoroughly enjoyed clambering up the steps to the gallows in the claustrophobic exercise yard. Lying under the flagstones were those who, in this yard, had seen their last glimpse of the sky. And Robin Hood thought he had a hard time with the Sheriff of Nottingham.

PATRICK HANLON



Keen young followers of Robin Hood and his group of outlaws seek inspiration from his statue

### D.H.Lawrence Birthplace Museum, Eastwood (01773 763312). Furnished appropriately to the time of the Lawrence family's occupation; adjacent craft ■ Chy of Nottingham: Tourism Section. Nottingham City Council. Castle Gate House, 24-30 Castle Gate, Nottingham NGI 7AT (0159 483500)

NOTTINGHAM FACT FILE

■ The author was a guest of the Nottingham Royal Mont House, Wollston Street, Nottingham NGI 5RH (0159 369983). Double en suite room from £120 per night; breakfast £9.95 per person. Weekend rate (two nights B&B to include Saturday): £47 per person; "Robin Hood" offer, subject to availability: £29.50 per person B&B.

M How to get there: British Rail inquiries for Nottinghamshire: (0345 484950). East Midlands International Airport (01332 852852) is 14 miles away

■ Other places of interest: Newstead Abbey, Newstead Abbey Park (01623 793557). Ancestral home of Lord Byron, commining his possessions, manuscripts and first editions in period rooms, 200 acres of parkland. The World of Robin Hood, Haughton, near Retford. Relive medieval history in sound and vision, medieval village, film sets from Robin Hood—

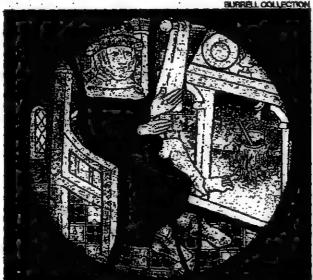
### Zen and the art of Glasgow

Ten years ago Glasgow was all Gorbals and tenements in most neople's minds, but since its stint as European City of Culture it has come to represent museums, music, galleries, good food and the style of Charles Rennie Mackintosh. First time in Glasgow?" our first cabbie asked, as he took us from station to hotel. "You'll like it."

The next cabbie, who took us to the Ubiquitous Chip, one of 11 Glasgow restaurants in the Good Food Guide, was just as proud of his city. "Don't those buildings look magnificent, all cleaned up and floodlit? That's the University on your left, or I should say Glasgow University because we've got three ... that's Kelvingrove Park, which has got two art galleries . . . "

I got happily lost in the Ubiquitous Chip's wine list, which includes three singlespaced pages of single-malt whiskies and what seemed like 1,000 wines. My Aberdeen Angus steak was sublime, and my partner's monkfish was huge. Cuisine and culture were obviously going to be the themes of this weekend's visit, but with almost 40 entries in the Glasgow Galleries Guide, two days would give us no

The Burrell Collection was donated to the city by the shipowner Sir William Burrell (1861-1958), who began buying in his teens and was still at it when he was 96. He accumulated \$,000 objects, most of which are now on show in a stunning purpose-built build-ing in Pollok Park in the southwest of the city. There are Persian carpets, Rodin sculp-



A stained-glass window from the Burrell collection

tures including The Thinker, prints by Rembrandt, paintings by Cézanne, Degas, Manet and Millet, some fine Egyptian heads and reliefs. and a display of stained glass that goes back to the 12th century. And, as with all Glasgow's museums, admission is free, as are guided tours. Other cities take note.

More free culture but not a free lunch at the Willow Tea Rooms designed by Mackintosh above Henderson's the Jewellers in Sauchiehall Street Mirrored walls make the small room look larger, but Mackintosh's high-backed silver chairs also make it look crowded. And it is for much of the time, so be prepared to queue on the stairs while you await your tea and fancies.

The St Mungo Museum of Religious Life and Art opened in 1993 with claims to be the only religious museum in the world. It looks at the way all faiths affect both art and daily life, from Salvador Dali to the Dalai Lama. Named after the city's patron saint, it stands in front of the cathedral and opposite the oldest house in Glasgow, the 1471 Provand's Lordship, also open to visitors.

ome of the work has been specially commis-signed, such as a delightful statue of the Hindu elephant god Ganesh, made in Bangalore. The multi-denominational nature is not to everyone's taste, as a glance at the comments people are invited to leave indicates. One asks that Ganesh be moved away from the influence of nearby Christian exhibits, to which someone else scribbles: "But that's the whole point!" A

visitor from Athens asks

where is the Orthodox faith. though most comments are of the "profound experience" va-

riety. I found it just that. Step through to the gallery devoted to religious life and you are confronted by a horrifdancing skeleton, made for the Mexican Day of the dead. This gallery deals with the way different religions deal with our journey through life, from birth via courtship and marriage to death and the after-life. Stunning black and white photographs confront us with images of religious war-fare, of Northern Ireland and the Holocaust.

Upstairs is a gallery devoted to religion in Scotland, and a large window looks down on Britain's only Japanese Zen garden. This blissfully peace-ful scene has rippling patterns of stone which lead the eye to Glasgow Cathedral, largely built in the 13th and 14th centuries.

Alongside is the city's Necropolis, a hillside tumble of tombs and crosses. I should have explored more but the rain was drizding and my cultural coffers were full for the day. It was time to get back to Scottish cuising and a supper of salmon mousse and venison steaks at One Devonshire Gardens, yet another of Glasgow's culinary shrines.

But the last word goes to the cabbie who dropped us at the station: "People expect Glas-gow to be a rough old place but I've yet to meet a visitor who hasn't been pleasantly surprised by what we've got to

MIKE GERRARD The author was a guest of the Glasgow Tourist Board.





GLASGOW FACT FILE 🐞 Where to stay: Malmaison, 278 West George Street (0141-22) 6400). Small and

stylish. Double room £80 per night; suite One Devonshire Gardens (0141-339) 2001). Small and deluxe, Double room costs £165 midweek, £125 at weekends

Where to eat: The Ubiquitous Chip, 12 Ashton Lane (0141-334 5007). Open The Willow Rooms, 217 Sauchiehall Street (0141-332 0521).

What to visit: The Burrell Collection, 2060 Pollokshaws Road (0141-649 7151).

Open Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun Ham-

5pm.
The St Mungo Museum, 2 Castle Street (0141-553 2557). Open Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun Ham-Spm. Hunterian Art Gallery, University of Glasgow, 82 Hillhead Street (014)

330 5431). Open Mon-Sat 9.30am-5pm. Includes a reconstruction of Mackintosh's former home at 78 Southpark Avenue (closed at lunchtime). Also fine Whistler

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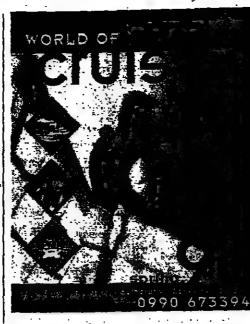
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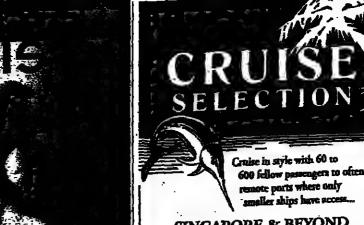
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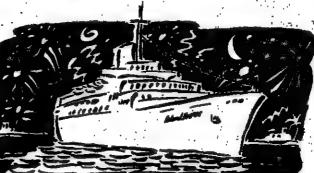
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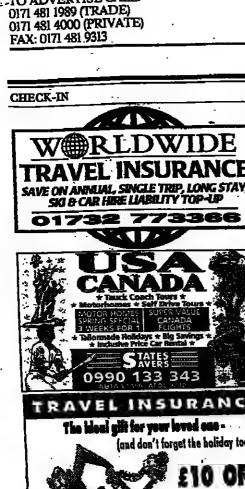
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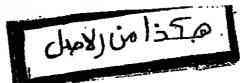
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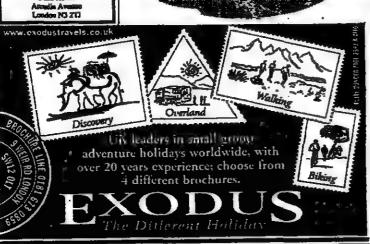
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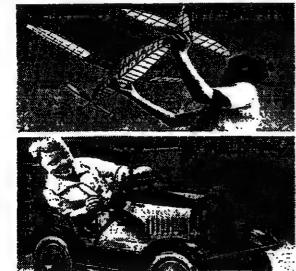
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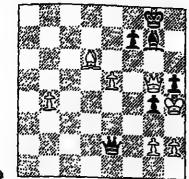
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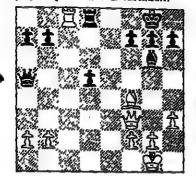
### by Raymond Keene

I published this first position on October 26 last year. It is from the game Prazak-Witkowski, Tarnov 1979. Can you spot White's neat move, which brought the game to a successful conclusion for him?



Solution: 1 Bf8 Mr Francis of Essex wonders why Black cannot now force mate starting with 1 ... Qf2+. This would lead to mate if White now played 2 g3 allowing 2 . . . Oxh2, but 2 Kxh5 leaves Black defenceless.

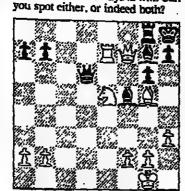
The second position was set as a Winning Move on June 27 last year. It is from the game Karpov-Timman, Amsterdam 1991. White would like to play I Bc7, forking queen and rook, but Black can then reply I ... QeI+. How can White, to play, improve on this variation?



Solution: 1 b4! Qb6 2 Bc7 Rxc8 3 Bxb6 axb6 4 Qxd5, and White, with the advantage of queen against rook and bishop, went on to win.

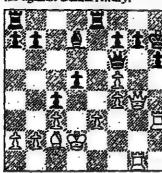
Mr Mukherjee of Calcutta now tries to improve on White's play with I Qc3 Qb6 2 Qe3 with the ideas 2... Qxe3 3 Rxd8+ and 2... Qf6 3 Qe8+. However, 2 Qe3 is met by 2... Rxc8 - and Black will emerge a rook ahead.

The next position to cause comment was from the game Morozevich-Adianto, Amsterdam 1996, the Winning Move for October 18. Black had already given up before this position arose. White, to play, has two attractive ways to win. Can



Solution: 1 Qx65 leaves Black without a reasonable reply. Equally good is 1 Qxg7+! Rxg7 2 Re8+ Rg8 3 Nf7+ Kg7 4 Nxd6, with an extra piece. Dr Sarrag of Glasgow has spotted a third route to victory for White, with 1 Bh6. If now 1... Qd1+ 2 Kh2 Bxe5+ 3 f4! and Black will be mated. 1 . . . Qf6 is met by 2 Qxf6 Bxf6 3 Nf7 mate. Black's best is i ... Qxe5 2 Rxe5 Bxe5, but after 3 Qxb7,

White is winning easily.
Finally, Paul Hatvany of Wiltshire has sent me this remarkable missed opportunity from a game of his against Daniel Awdry.



Here White considered at length the move 1 Qxg7+, but decided against it. In fact it would have led to a brilliant win, e.g. I Qxg7+ Qxg7 2 f6+ Qg6 3 Bxg6+ fxg6 4 Rxh6+ Kg8 (4 . . . Kxh6 5 Rh1+ mating) 5 Rgxg6+ Kf7 (5 ... Kf8 6 Rg7 mating) 6 Rg7+ Ke6 7 f7+ winning.

#### WINNING O

By Raymond Keene White to play. This position is a possible variation from the game Anand - Ivanchuk, Las Palmes 1996. How does White make the most of his concentration of force around the black king?

Send your answer on a postcard to The Times; I Pennington Street, London El 9XN. The first correct solution drawn on Thursday will receive a year's subscription to the Staunton Society, which includes a free invitation to the annual dinner at Simo in-the-Strand. The answer will be published next Saturday... Last week's solution: I Nf6 (1 ... Bxf6 2 Be4)

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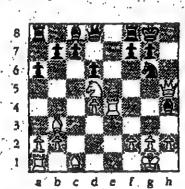
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W

Last week's winner: G Stanton Redditch, Worcestershire.



PUNCHLINE

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon (right), from The Strand Magazine (reproduced from Westminster Libraries. Sherlock Holmes Collection, Marylebone Library).

The cartoon will be printed again next week with a caption from those submitted.

Send caption suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to: Strand Caption 40. Weekend, The Times. 1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN.

The Editor's decision is final. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, February 26.





"It's an old smuggling trick I learnt at Sotheby's"

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by D.Till of Leek, Staffordshire



WORD-WATCHING By Philip Howard

ASHRAM a. A Blackface Tup b. A Tamil dialect c. A shrine

DOSSY a. An open-air bed c. Money

**GOMPA** a. A grandfather

c. Rice meal

BUCKEEN a. An aboriginal woman b. A hind

c. To scrape a ship's bottom Answers on page 19

### BRIDGE

### by Robert Sheehan

YOUR left-hand opponent opens 2NT and your right-hand opponent raises to 3NT. Your partner leads the three of spades and when dummy goes down you judge that the defence's best chance lie in the spade suit. Which card would you play as East in the following two layouts, when declarer plays the 6 from dummy?

**₽**Q6 **⊕** A 104 +Q6 (11) • 3 led +A1054 763 E 7K9872 W +984 : +752 S . 10 € 1. TAQ5 •AK3 **⊕**AK9B4

eK8732

+06

₹J104

+QJ106

**+**0763

N-

+A1094

In the first case it is clear to play the in, From Rule of Eleven you can tell that declarer has three cards higher than the three, so if he has the jack he will always score a trick in the suit. Playing the ten gains against many holdings; eg. if declarer started with K 9.7.2, your side will pick up three tricks later. The second case is more awk-

ward; declarer has only two cards higher than the three, but there is room for him to hold say K 92. In that case playing the 10 will be best. But with Kxx declarer will normally play the queen from dummy, to make it more difficult for the defence's communications if West has the ace. Where it costs to duck is when declarer has say J 9 alone. In general you should win the ace and return the 4, your original fourth-highest. Now look at the variant in the

deal shown at the top of the next column. Try to look only at the West and North hands.

South opens 2NT and North bids 3NT. Dummy plays low on the opening spade, and East wins with the ace. He returns the ten, on

which South plays the jack. What should West do? West can play South for J5 of spades, in which case West can take the king and run the spade suit immediately; or West can play South for J 95 (and hence East for A 104), and duck, hoping East can get in subsequen-tly to return his remaining spade. hich is it to be?

It might appear to be a guess, but the critical point is that, with A 10 4, East would play the ten on the first round, as I've explained above. Hence West should win the king of spades and continue spades, Notice that with this particular

spade holding East has to return the ten, rather than the four. The four would block the suit whenever West has led from K8xxx. That is a good point to remember -- whenever East has intermediates which might block the run of the suit he cannot afford the normal return of his original fourth-highest.

#### DOMPUTER GAMES AND PASTIMES

WHO WOULD expect Dustin Hoffman and John Gielgud to team up for an entrancing educa-tional CD-Rom aimed at five to 11 year-olds? At least, it could be them if you close your eyes for a second. The Great Word Adventure 1 is hosted by a bear called Howie who speaks in full twitchy and distressed-Dustin Hoffman mode, while the unseen narrator sounds uncannily like British theatre's eldest statesman.

From 7th Level, the Windows

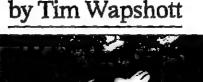
CD-Roon looks and plays like a cartoon, with Howie and friends setting off in a spaceship to play 100 largely alphabet and reading-im-proving games. After signing in, and stipulating their age, users are whisked off with Howie to an elegant library ready for blast off on the zippy exploratory journey. All the games are enticing, the goals get increasingly challenging and, unlike some educational titles. the academic content (supporting National Curriculum key stages 1 and I) never seems isboured. The graphics and animation effects run play is balanced perfectly. It couldn't be bettered, even if Messrs Hoffman and Gielgud had been signed up for the voice

characterisations. For much older students of English, Making the Modern is a handy poetry reference work from the Bookworm Student Library range, imported here by Guildsoft in Plymouth. Highlighting important Romantic works of British poets, from Lord Byron to William Wordsworth, the dual format Mac and Windows CD-Rom offers malleable texts of i25 poems which can be endlessly referenced, navigated, copied cut and pasted. Some works are also brought to crackling life in short audio readings. Should you have problems tracking down a copy, call Guildsoft on 01752 895100.

in Cyberspace Thirty we asked for poems along love lines to Bill Gates, supernova of the computer age and husband of Mrs Melinda Gates. The hefty postbag proves you to be a poetic lot, even if some of your puns were torturous. Typical of the fine stan-dard received was this entry from Janet Guest of Wokin SUCTEV

Bill, please be my Valentine We'll share The Road Ahead Delete that young Melinda's file

Then you and I can wed





Games on the Great Word Adventure 1 are great fun and a good teaching aid

> My poem's pretty Basic i don't express myself too well But Bill you have my Word That together we'll Excel Offers of marriage, alongside swipes, came from both sexes. Eric Speuman of Essex, wrote:

I must confess - against my will, I fell in love with golden Bill. Your version one, with all its bugs, you sold to 50 million mugs

THE LISTENER GROSSWORD

who sent their hard earned cash to you, before you gave

But not for free - I hear the

tills, ring up a lot more dollar your riches, is selling programmes full of glitches.

Dear Bill, if you would marry me, I could get all your software free Please open up, my Gates of Heaven, it surely will be

version seven. The most commonly recurring rhyme was "till" with "Bill", though Gareth Jones, of Windermere, Cumbria, went several steps further in Ode to Bill:

It's all just jealousy, Bill, of your iron will, Bill. They rant and rave about the way you behave, nut we naven'i naa our nit. Bitt. You promised us the world, Bill, and yet we wait here still, Bill. We've suffered Windows 95, as Apple struggled to survive.

and that's a bitter pill, Bill. it's a bitter twist of fates, Gates. That with all your computer mates. Gates,

You can't provide a better, way to type a letter, or handle particular dates,

I gave up my Mac for you Bill, A better product still, Bill. But now with several billions. you're a guru to millions.

Robert Taylor of Surrey, gave Bill's love a millennium ultimatum with his entry:

Are you preparing, my dear Valentine, the software to keep you forever

I don't want to crash nor lose all my cash at midnight on 31.12.99

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### No 1024

ACROSS 1 Psychological battle (3,2.6)

8 W H -, poet (5) Mass slaughter (7) 10 Crease animai pen (4)

[ Painstaking (8) 13 Puss: trivial objection (6) 14 Star group, may be spiral

17 Odds-against competitor (8) 19 To spring (4)

24 A vegetable casserole (11)

(3.4) 3 Cravenly avoid (4)

4 Greek geometer (6) 5 Perpendicular (8) 6 Quench (thirst) (5)

22 Pungent gas, NH3 (7) 23 Of the same value (5)

7 Priest's robing-room (6) 12 Single-reed instrument (8) 13 Chewy sweet (6)

21 Girl's admirer; dandy (4) SOLUTION TO NO 1023.

ACROSS: I Switch 5 Swig 9 Swaddle 10 Sweden 11 Vehement 12 Lubber 15 Adverb 18 Swan song 20 Swanee 22 Swinish 23 Sway 24 Swarms DOWN: 2 Wisden 3 Traverse 4 Hedge 6 Wane 7 Grieve 8 Pestle 13 Brassica 14 Obsess 16 Dowses 17 Anthem 19 Amiss

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The grid is divided into four identically-shaped pieces arranged around the central square. These pieces may also be arranged in a larger square about a different central square and it was into that larger square that Dimitry originally composed the diagram. Thus, entries may occasionally run out of the diagram as given, only to appear continuing elsewhere.

Numbers given in the grid indicate that the answer to

that number clue has one letter in that square, but no distinction is made between Across and Down. Four long unclued entries may be seen to be distinctively laid out vertically in an overlong manner with opposite sides aligned. Eight three-letter entries are clued by one-word definitions in random order and the positions of these are not indicated in the grid. Solvers must mark the divisions between the four pieces of the grid but other bars are not required. Chambers (1993) is recommended but does not give three proper names (28, 36, 41, all in Collins). Three-letter words:

Top crime investigator Hill holds antique dagger close

We still love Yanks Donna, Brad and Jay (12, three words) Free earth that's between furrows (5) Ascetic Chinese philosophic principle holds nothing good (5)
What sounds like severe bore (4)
A — 's wriggling in Red Sea, possibly? (6)
Places for warming pitchers of weak drink on

plantations (8) He sells story to press: they can offer great riches (12) Viols getting tenor to be visiting musician (5) Small capitals need constructing for set on stage (6) Constituent of detergents can be deadly if left out (5) Gave false impression about president - he's a late

H

NEKINDA

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BA

Terminally morose and dour? Yes, in a way (8) With having about, this garment's gathering in (4) No 3398: All Square by Dimitry Cleans teeth without fluorine - some which are missing (6)

At court, maintain precedence by power (5)
Work hard in Italy to go back? I might! (7)
One lying about vein of ore could be held for breaking up rock (12) Oblivious how much gets in of marginal value (7) Laser circling in defensive rings (5) Pay off committee in silence (7) Highland whisky showing pedigree in height of

excellence (8)
Maiden coming in halts lively dances (6)
Lignum could produce this gum initially? (5) Greek vase? Do without one, thanks (5) Carbon in record put back moon's age at one time (5) Friendly Italian island - I'm returning to it (7) Runner up would have no prizes (6) Type type fellow fellow initially initially (6)

Half Berber, the Moor (5)

Leaders in Islamic mosques and Muslim sultans (5) Glory, nothing less caught by that kingfisher (7) Impertinent fool with yen to follow saint (5) Delay concerning agent turning up (5) News on returning mist in Scotland (4) Usually take power? Yes and no (5) Number one son, native Chinese is returning here

perhaps (6) Old units call for attention in months (4) Knight from Turkistan, not this country (7)

Capuchin makes a journey endlessly (5) Where lies the makings of Lucrena's rape? ——'s place, possibly (7)
Fish covered in sewage smells strongly (8)

The winner is Chris Robson of Beeston, Nottinghamshire.

The five runners up are: Paul Dendy of Clwyd;



More entries next week. Also to come, details of the winner whose prose wins them a Polaroid digital camera worth £2,650.

Annes, Lancs,

DOWN l Quay (5)

2 Danger, revolution emblem

15 In normal way (2.5) 16 Composér of eg 12 Quintet, Concerto (6)

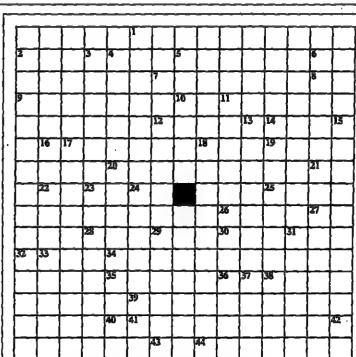
SUE DHAMPTON AOCOURTL 18 Show reluctance (5) 20 Regular rhythmic beat (5) SMIMOSA RPOAB LP RY ROM FFIS RKSP URB MM

Salation in no 3395 A-maze-ing by The Tall'n

The "keys" (the leners A to G) were to be added to the letters on the other side of locked doors (horizontal or vertical bars) along the path using their numerical values (eg. D added to O gives S). Using the resultant letters, the reverse path from the centre to the entrance (top left) forms the storyline the MINOTAUR was killed by THE-SEUS, who then escaped from the maze by following a BALL OF THREAD. The thematic lights formed three famous mazes: HOLLYWOOD STONE (18d & 51a) is the earliest

dateable maze in the British Isles, built in Ireland circa SSOAD; the oldest surviving hedge maze in Britain is at HAMPTON COURT (5a & 12a) built in 1690; and the CRETAN LABYRINTH 154a & 13d) was built to house the Minotaur, according to Greek mythology.

Chris Hague of London: B.Midgley of Berkshire: Z.Adams of South Croydon: S.Gibbs of Bedford.



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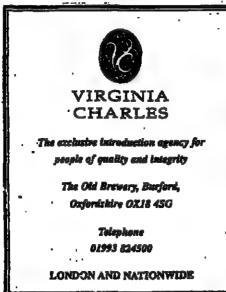
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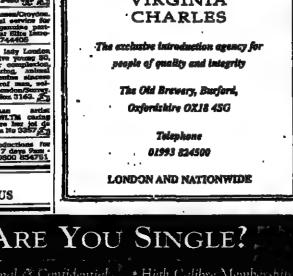
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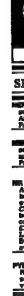
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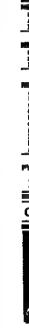








































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How to get ahead on bikes, and the new Triumphs Pages 3, 10



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SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22 1997

Many drivers risk lives by failing to secure their pets, warns Simon Hacker in the run-up to Cruft's

# Deadly danger of unrestrained dogs



Cages and harnesses are recommended by experts

s 20,000 dogs and their loving owners on Cruft's 1997 next month, some bad news; no matter how affectionate and even-tempered your canine friend, as a car passenger it can main or kill both itself

it's not Fido's fault. But an unsecured dog in the back of a car becomes an extreme danger in the event of an accident. Colliding with a solid object when driving at the urban speed limit creates the same

force of deceleration used to test safety belts in a crash simulator. But while the seatbelted driver may be abruptly restrained in a crash. an unsecured 50lb dog sitting car will continue

flying forwards. Multiply the hapforwards. weight by what accident researchers term a "pulse" of 20G, and a threeand-a-half-stone adult Springer madness' Spaniel is transformed into an unguided missile

propelled by a walloping 1,000ft/lbs of kinetic energy. Although the vast majority of Cruft's Show contenders will be nursed to Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre in the relative safety of harnesses, padded boxes and cages, the parcel-shelf poodle and lap-top Labrador are still common leatures of driving life. Two years into her job,

trainee veterinary murse Jess White from Gloucestershire has already seen her fair share of road-related pet injuries, but a crash in which her own whippet, Dudley, died has made her an avid spokeswoman for dog safety.

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"I was driving in my Mini at about 60mph when another vehicle pulled out on me," she recalls. "Dudley, who was 12, was sitting on the back seat when we crashed. I suffered head injuries; he broke his neck. But he didn't die immedintely and was in terrible pain. I wanted it is ambulance take the away until the vet had

arrived. I learnt my lesson the hard way: you should always choose a car with rear belts and fit a proper dog harness to

Mike Dickison, group leader for body engineering and safety at the Motor Industry Research Association's laboratories, says a hatchback or estate car with fold-down rear seats can be less likely to stop loose objects flying about in an impact, because the seats buckle under pressure. But the good news is that the introducin place of lap belts has resulted in greater strength.

The sean have been reinforced for the fifth belt and are less likely to collapse under the same strain. So if your dog is will stand a better

'Letting chance," says Dickison. pets on the parcel shelf is

Dogs Today, is campaigning to make dog salety a bigger issue among carmakers. "Manufacturers might be good at designing cup holders but they tend to develop a blind spot for

four-legged passengers, ex-plains editor Beverley Coddy. "Volvo is making extraordinary efforts. For the 850 saloon, there's a case area which allows you to fold a seat down and keep your dog in the boot, but the dog can still see you, so everyone's happy. Apart from Volvo though, no one else

seems to be bothered." Given that a quarter of UK households have dogs, cur-makers need to wake up, says Cuddy. They're quick to use dogs to beautify their brochures, but that's about as far as it goes. We tell our readers to take their dogs with them when they go for a test drive." The RSPCA recommends

harnesses, particularly for small dogs. Spokeswoman Justine Pannett says, "It's important that the restraint is inted to the dog's body and not a collar. For bigger dogs, we recommend a guard to stop the animal from falling forwards."



The RAC, however, has doubts about conventional dog guards. Safety spokesman Kevin Delaney feels a guard might actually increase injury risks. "A guard might prevent Fido from hopping into the front, but it's pretty useless for restraining a big dog in a crash. If it comes free, you have the added problem of the guard, as well as your dog, heading your way. The last thing you want immediately after a collision is for both dog and guard to rearrange them-

selves around the back of your

But that doesn't mean don't restrain your dog: "It's utter madness to let small dogs stand or sit on the parcel shelf." Delaney says. "When shelf," Delaney says. you brake sharply, the dog is likely to end up embedded under the front seat. In a headon - and if it doesn't take out half of your skull on the way it will hit the windscreen. And any dog left to wander loose in the back of any car is lethal baggage."

Be it to a show or just for walkies, if you're planning to take your dog on a journey, the RAC advises that you ensure that your dog is confined to an area big enough to enable it to lie down, but small enough to prevent it from roaming about if possible, place padded material between the seat-

in an accident or when braking hard, any impact is cushioned. The Department of Trans-

back and the dog, so that if the

dog moves forwards suddenly

port says it has not researched restraints for dogs, but points to the Highway Code for

guidance. Section 213 of the code stresses the need to keep animals under control and to make sure they are not a distraction to the driver, so an unrestrained dog could be judged by police as driving without due care and attention," says a spokesman.

Car insurers have no guidelines or stipulations for dog owners, and pet insurers such



Bentley's Cocker Spaniels are happy to ride in cages

### How to quell a Boxer rebellion

TRISHA BENTLEY, whose Cocker Spaniel, Albert, was overall winner at Crust's in 1996, believes different dogs require different restraints. Albert and her nine other Cocker Spaniels are happy to ride in wire cages in the back of her Ford Escort. But Vesper, a prize Boxer bitch, just won't entertain being stashed at the back of the car.

Says Trisha: "Vesper panics and she has to be closer to me, so she sits on the back seat and wears a restraining Hi-Craft harness which attaches to the safety belt.

"It is important that dog owners think before they set out on a journey and that they keep the wellbeing of their dogs in mind. A dog is a member of the family."





Harness-supporter Jess White lost Dudley, above, in a crash

as Hill House Hammond do not insist upon cages or harnesses being fitted.

ome per-product spe-cialists, however, suggest more dogs are killed in the panic following a crash then during the crash itself. Geoff Caldwell, managing director of Barjo Kennel Systems, believes an unrestrained dog will jump through a broken window and often into the path of other traffic. Barjo designs

custom made to fit most models of estate car. A standard cage sells for £135.

The key is to protect your dog from injury, protect you from your dog and protect anyone attempting to rescue you from a distressed and potentially dangerous anirnal," says Caldwell.

Crust's Show starts on March 6 at the National Exhibition Centre.

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## Road tolls are a ding-dong idea

being in the M4 ingly used by estate agents to convince people that an area is within daily commuting distance of London, And indeed there are plenty of people in my area who do commute to London every day; you can identify them by the bags

under their eyes.

An off-peak standard-class return ticket from Chippenham, my nearest main-line station, to Pad-dington now costs E31.50. The same return journey by car is about 200 miles and in an average car will use, at most, six gallons of fuel. In Chippenham, unleaded petrol costs about £2.86 a gallon, therefore the fuel cost of the

The last time the Government

**DRIVEN TO** DISTRACTION



Peter Barnard

costed road pricing, it reckoned that cars would pay 1.5p per mile for motorway journeys. Thus the aforementioned round-trip would set us back £3 in toils at the very most. Add that to the fuel cost and we have a grand total of £20.16. So, even using the cheapest return rail

fare as a comparison, the journey is more than £11 cheaper by road than it is by rail.

This week The Times reported that the Government is pressing ahead with trials of a "ray-gun" device to collect road tolls. The nominal purpose of tolls is to make motorists pay for the cost of road improvements, even though we already pay the Treasury far more than we get back in road spending. But the secondary purpose of tolls is to make motoring more expensive and thus force us to use the

Before you rush for the word processor or the writing paper, I know that motorists are living in dreamland if they think the only cost of travelling by car is the fuel. Surveys have shown that the real, overall cost of motoring is quite high but there is a central fallacy in

those figures: they imply that if we

went to work by rail, we would not

own a car at all. Of course we would. It would do less mileage if we travelled by rail to work, suggesting a higher residual value and fewer repairs, but then we would be likely to keep the car longer. So by the time we

SPECIAL PREVIEW: TWO NEW CARS UNVEILED THIS WEEK

be worth no more than if we were swapping a newer one with the

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same mileage.
Railway advocates also suffer convenient amnesia about the fact that just as car journeys cost more than the petrol, rail journeys cost more than the ticket. Before the were subsiding them to the

sappear over the next decade. So will road pricing get drivers off the motorways? Oh yes, deli-

LONDON ·

M4 junctions 1-2 Chiswick

area: major roadworks, also on the elevated section and

A306 Hammersmith Bridge

the entry and exit slips. Closures on A4 in both directions.

M1 junction 2 Hendon;

access to or from A1...

closed overnight and weekends. A232 Wallington:

restrictions.

roadworks with contration

Mili junctions 6-4: lanes

A31 Ringwood: roadworks with contraflow.

M25 junction 2 De Book southbound lane closure

A3 near Guildford: works at Stag Hill.

A389, Bodmin: roadworks. A48 Hill Street, Lydney:

temporary lights.
A35 Christchurch Bypass:
lane closure.
M5 junction 13: roadworks

closed in both directions. M5 junctions 23-22: lane

MIDLANDS AND EAST

A1 Alconbury: one lane

A6 near M1 junction 24:

A1064 Acle Way Bridge

works. A5 near M6 junction 12:

roadworks and contraflow in

contraflow with one lane each

A14 between Newmarket

temporary traffic lights on Billston Road.

readworks closing the southbound entry and northbound exit slip reads.

A34 Birmingham: major roadworks on Stratford Road.

and Bury St Edmunds:

A41 Wolverhampton:

M5 junction 2: major

● NORTH

northbound.

both directions.

closed both ways. A500 Stoke eres:

SOUTH WEST

M5 junctions 18-19;

O SOUTH EAST

A406 Upper Edmonton:

A3212 Westminster Bridge

closed both ways.

tune of El billion a year. Now, the subsidy has doubled to £2 billion a year. We are paying twice as much not to own the railways as we paid to own them, though the subsidy is supposed to reduce and eventually

but off the motorways and on to the minor roads. If you doubt that, consider the fact that every time the toll on the older of the Severn bridges is raised, more transport firms tell their drivers to take the route through Gloucestershire that. avoids the bridge. Transport firms have already

pricing will not get drivers off the motorways and on to the trains,

warned that road pricing (the toll would be much higher for lorries than cars) will increase the cost of goods, therefore another hidden cost is revealed: even people who do not use cars would end up paying for roads via the increased price of groceries.

No wonder that in last week's

Autoglass/Car 97 poll, only 16 per cent thought road tolls were the answer to congestion. The majority are no doubt also worried that once tolls arrive, their cost would inexorably rise. That would not make rail more competitive, because rail fares also rise.

Road tolls are taxation b another name, a money-raising stunt with no impact on congestion or pollution. Tolls are a wheeze for the Treasury and the people who make the technology. For ordinary motorists they are simply a cost

### Greening our traffic

## Magic mix could clean up diesel

Water, plus a secret agent, might

be the answer, says Stuart Birch

'It may

diesel

ests that could revolutionise the diesel car industry are underway in a laboratory at the high-security Millbrook automotive development centre and proving ground. A new fuel which should be no more expensive than ordinary diesel could make smoky ex-

And the wonder ingredient that makes it all possible is water - working with a secret agent. Concern about possible health risks from diesel smoke and particulates - soot blown from exhaust pipes has grown recently. But now a French-Chilean inventor, Charles Miriel, has set up a British-registered company to develop and market an emul-

sifying agent, codenamed HEM 100, which may bring ultra-clean emissions. Miriel is trying to prove wrong the

old saying that oil and water do not mix. The work at Millbrook will be completed in late March and if the figures add up, diesel fuel could gain a green halo. News of the po-

tential break

cars' through is revealed in this month's specialist magazine Diesel Car & Int. "If Miriel's the formation of oxides of claims are proved accurate it will mean that he has come up with a cheap, organic, easily manufactured agent that performs the difficult trick of creating a permanent bond between diesel fuel and water. This could be the key to a new world of cleaner, more eff-

John Kerswill. "It sounds almost too good to be true and only tests and time will prove whether it is. But it looks very hopeful at

icient car engines," says editor

Miriel's work could lead to a major battle between diesel and petrol power and may reverse the recent shrinking market for diesel cars in the UK — down from a peak of 23 per cent to 18 per cent.

Kerswill says the new fuel has been researched and developed by Miriel over the past 15 years, and is a "simple" modification of normal car diesel fuel. It could be used in any car diesel engine, be it old

Henry Coelho. a retail deign consultant is a director of Miriel's Eurofuel company "Using water in diesel fuel is not new. Ship engines use it and some large truck engines have water injection. But the problem has been developing a fuel suitable for small engines and one which will cope Early tests have seen temperatures as low as minus 17C and up to plus 45C without showing signs of deterioration," says Coelho.

He says it cuts particulates by at least 80 per cent, and oxides of nitrogen, hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide are all reduced by at least 30-40 per cent. These are very

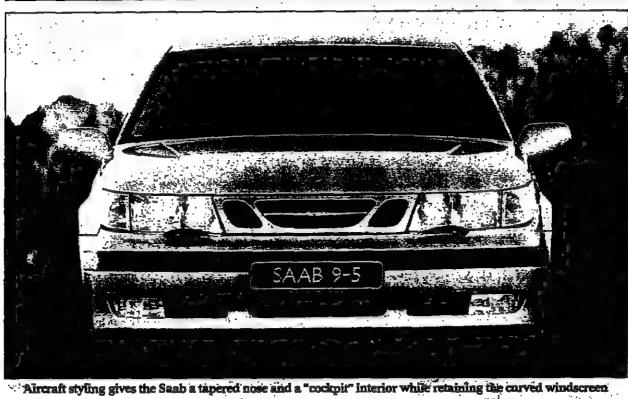
significant claims as governments bring in ever-tighter emissions legislation which pose major, and very expen-sive, problems for diesel car-engine makers.

The secret process involves diesel fuel and water being emulsified by the HEM 100 revive the agent, which bonds market for water and hydrocarbon molecules to produce a milky looking liquid. The

bustion temperature and reduces nitrogen. The water also results in smaller fuel droplets in the combustion chamber to permit far more efficient burning. It overcomes the problem of unburnt fuel which causes smoke and particulates.

oelho says when the water and diesel fuel emulsion enters the combustion chamber, the water flashes to superheated steam, atomising the fuel into minute droplets which can be totally burnt. "It may all sound very simple but it is a highly complex piece of chemistry. We believe HEM 100 could be either added to diesel fuel at the refinery or even at a filling station."

The cost of a gallon of emulsified fuel should be comparable to ordinary diesel, he says. "If a power unit was designed specifically for the new fuel the advantages would be greater. An added benefit is that the agent could be used for oil-spill dispersal."



FIRST photographs of a top-of-the-range sa-loon, the Saab 9-5 which will be powered by a new generation of ultra-clean and economical turbocharged Ecopower engines, were released by the Swedish company this k, writes Alan Copps.

The front of the four-door 9-5 bears a strong resemblance to current models, keeping the maker's traditional wedgeshaped styling and curved windscreen. The design also features striking rear pillars which are said to give it more space in the back seats. The fascia is inspired by the company's aircraft experience and curves around the driver. giving the feel of a cockpit.

All engines in the range will be turbocharged, offering safe use of power for overtaking and Saab engineers promise it will be their best model yet in terms of roadholding and handling.

The car will be unveiled in Sweden in June and go on show at the Frankfurt motor show in September. Sales in Britain should start the following month and the new car is expected to add to the company's strong performance here.

Unveiling the 9-5, Robert Hendry, Saab's chief executive, confirmed that Britain was the company's outstanding market last year with record sales of 14,900 cars.

### SAAB 9-5

Body style: four-door saloon. Engines: choice of turbocharged 2-litre or 2.3-litre four-cylinder, or V6 3-litre feauturing a unique assymetric turbocharger driven by exhaust from one bank.

of cylinders only. Interior: will include as standard Saab's interactive head restraints designed to reduce whiplash injuries. Price: to be announced.

That means that one in ten executive cars sold here was a Saab. The new car will be a strong competitor for the BMW 5-Series, Audi A-6, Mercedes E-class and Volvo \$70. Production of the ageing 9000CD will cease when the

new car is introduced but the 9000CS model, renowned for its outstanding safety perfor-

mance, will continue. A special fiftieth anniversa-ry model of the 9000CS accounted for a quarter of Saab sales last year.



All-new A6 bears a strong family resemblance to the A4, which has been Audi's standard-bearer over the past year

### AUDI A6

Body-style: four-door saloon. Engines: four-cylinder, 20-vaive, turbocharged I.S-litre giving 150bhp; six-cylinder 2.8-litre giving 193bhp and 2.4-litre V6 giving 165bhp. 1.9-litre TDI direct injection diesel will be added to range shortly after launch. Interior, will include electronic climate control and remote central locking as standard. Price: to be announced.

ANOTHER BIG contender in the executive car market was unveiled this week when Audi released the first photographs of its allnew A6. It will go on sale in Britain in May and the company is expecting to sell 4,000 of this model in its first full year, writes Alan Copps.

In the first place, the car will offer a choice of four-cylinder, six-cylinder and V6 engines and a direct-injection diesel will be added to the range later. The 24-litre V6 is a new design and will deliver 165bhp. Models with the 2.8litre six-cylinder engine come in both front-wheel drive and the highly rated four-wheel-

drive quattro guise. Styling of the car bears a strong family resemblance to the A4 which has been Audi's major standard-bearer over the past year. The company promises a high specification level with all models featuring lightweight alloy wheels, re-mote central locking and airconditioning as standard.

Audi, part of the Volkswagen empire, was another company which met with sales success in Britain last year, with a 19 per cent increase to 30,327 vehicles sold, giving it a L5 per cent share of the market overall. The firm's smaller A3 model is expected to make a bigger impact in the British market this year although at present it is experiencing supply problems.

hanced by victory last year in the fiercely competitive British Touring Car Champion-ship. It won the constructor's trophy and German driver Frank Biela won the championship outright in his A4 quattro, despite the handicap of an increased weight penalty to compensate for the roadholding advantage offered by the four-wheel-drive. Its racing success was repeated worldwide with touring car championships in Germany, South Africa, Italy, Belgium, Spain and Australia being

added to that in Britain.

A1M junction 63: roadworks with 50mph limit a unction 63 (Chester-le Street, A167). main work with one lane between MIR Larve most Stepping Hill. M6 junctions 25-27: works A3 Kingston; northbound line classed between Shannon Corner and Coombe Lane with a 50mph speed limit and M53 iunction 2: world with only one lane each way on the Moreton Spur. • M1 junctions 34-35: carriegeway down to two lense in both directions. roadworks over the Las Valley Vladuct. M1 junction 47: roadworks with lane closures and speed Dewsbury Road. **O** SCOTLAND A96 Bridge of Don: roadworks affecting the traffic

in both directions M8 junction 2: lane closures on the roundabout at Junction 2 (Newbridge Spur, M9). Regular delays on all approaches.
As Edinburgh: tene A701 Edinburgh Burdlehouse Road and Jamefield off-peak. M25 junctions 6-10; restrictions and lane closures. A92 Tay Road Bridge:

maintenance work at the bridges and lane closures Southbound.
M80 junction 5; contraflow.
A710 Straiton Road,
Miclothian; contraflow
between Captains Road
and the A720 City by pass.
A7 Hawick: Tower Street,
maintenance work will calle. maintenance work will cause slight delays. A77 Symington: southbound lane closure for with only one lane open at the junction with the A419. M5 junctions 26-27; lane roadworks, just north of the Bogend Toll.

• WALES A482 Upper Aberaeron Bridge on South Road is closed for reconstruction work. Diversions via Panteg Road and the A487, where there are also temporary traffic lights. Expect long rush hour delays.

A48 Carmarthen: temporary traffic lights and lane restrictions on lane restrictions of lane restrictions of lane restrictions on lane restrictions of lane restrictions of lane restrictions on lane restrictions of lane restrictions of lane restrictions on lane restrictions on lane restrictions of lane restrictions on lane restrictions on lane restrictions of lane restrictions on lane rest Pensam roundabout. A5025 City Dulas: one-way system over temporary bridge with width and weight

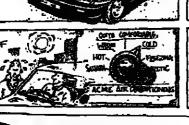
A48 between Langstone and Penhow; temporary traffic lights. A48 Maindee: works. A44 between Liangurig and Eisteddia Gurig: temporary lights. A458 Pont Sychcoed, Cyfronydd: temporary traffic, lights, also affecting the A463. A472 Pontypool:

Pontymoile and the Heron Roundabout.



#### AUTOFAX by Les Evans and David Long PURISTS DESMISSED HS SOFT LINES AND SOPT HANDLING, BUT THE JACUAR XJS IS THE COMPANY'S BEST-SOLUNG SPORTS CAR ...

AN ESTIMATED 30% OF ARE SOLD WITH





The state of the s

# Born to be styled: the easy dryers

Helen Mound

on the latest fashion among

hairdressers: big motorbikes

and leathers

a typical hairdresser's car. The Harley Davidson Fat Boy, one of the beefiest motorbikes ever built is high-society hairdresser. Nicky Clarke's, everyday

"I leave it at home when it gets really cold or wet, but otherwise I ride it all the time." he says. Clarke isn't the only hairdresser who has rejected the traditional two-seater sports cars normally associated with the profession and taken to two-wheels. Speedcrazy coiffeurs everywhere are leaping astride big, burly, loud and fast motorbikes.

Nigel Sellers, Director of Vidal Sassoon's hair salons, believes the trend is long overdue. "Hair stylists are very image conscious people and so are bikers ... it's a fashion statement. You get the bike and wear the gear to

match." Clarke, whose clients include Diana, Princess of Wales, and the Duchess of York, admits he already had the image to suit the motorbike: "A lot of my clients think I've always ridden a motorbike because of the leathers 1 wear. But apart from a 50cc Honda I had when I was 16, I've never been a bike rider."

His £13,000 Harley was a birthday present from his wife in June last year. It was delivered with a big red rosette tied to it." He went on a week's but failed his test the first time and had technical problems the second; third-time lucky. he passed and got to ride his 1340cc machine home.

"It is a monster, but I love it, it's actually very easy to ride. like cruising around in a big-comfy armchair, he says

ellers thinks the bik-ing hairdressing fraternity falls into three main groups. There are the style-conscious ones other Italian bikes because they're very chic. Then there are the Harley-Davidson riders who command an enormous amount of presence. And the ones who ride big-Japanese machines are into the performance and handling of motorbikes, and of course, they want to wear the colourful leathers to match."

Sellers rides one of the fastest motorbikes on the road, a Kawasaki ZZRI100, capable of a top speed of 170mph and a 0-60mph sprint of 2.5 seconds. "It's particularly useful for doing inspections at the salons around London. Even if word gets out that I'm on the rounds I often catch them out because can get to and from different branches very quickly." It hasn't always been accept

able for people in the hair-dressing profession to ride bikes, he says: "I remember years ago being asked to be the first to arrive at work so that no-one would see me ride up on my bike. Today it's far more fashionable for people in salons to have motorbikes." enjoying the lifestyle of a biker

Although Sellers admits to





Nicky Clarke mixes leather with lather on his Harley

commute fifty miles a day, so comfort and reliability are just as important to me."

Unsurprisingly, some hair-dressers have found their beloved motorbikes work well as

I'm rather proud of, but I in front of their salons can be good for business. Kris Efstration finds his Kawasaki ZZR1100 receives a lot of attention when he leaves it outside the salon where he works in East London. Previ-

Anyone for a chop? Gavin Ashley with the bike he displays in his hairdressing salon

exceeds three months, Nicky Clarke doesn't need to pull any more crowds; but he admits leaving his Harley-Davidson outside the salon doesn't do his business any harm either. "It's nice to leave it where I can keep an eye on it and, yes, I have noticed a lot of people stopping to admire it."

Gavin Ashley, who has a salon of the same name in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, has taken the motorbiking theme even further by using a Harley-Davidson Heritage

which was equally effective at attracting crowds.

With a waiting list that as a promotional display in-

zide his salon. "I thought it would make people stop and look . . . and I wanted something to appeal to male clients for a change. It's certainly provoked interest," he claims. And although it's unlikely he'll get any Hell's Angels popping in for a cur-and-blow-dry, he has had a lot of motorbike enthusiasts call-ing in for haircuts.

I suppose it is a bit different

for a market town in sleepy Suffolk, but the association between hairdressers and mo-

torbikes is getting increasingly common," believes Ashley. Sellers also believes that two wheeled power is well suited to the image most hairdressers want, but he says Vidal Sassoon customers are unlikely to be sharing their salons with fashionable motorbikes in future: "It's a great idea, but I doubt I would be able to get away with it." Hairdressers in America

have been using motorbikes to promote their business for some time. John Paul Jones Dejoria, founder of the popu-lar haircare products Paul Mitchell Systems, rides a Har-

tional videos and adverts.

However, after six years with Vidal Sassoon, Margita Roth, a 29-year-old hairdresser from Germany has come up with the most innovative idea to combine her love of motorbikes with her profession. She has launched a mobile hairdressing service called Courier Cuts and rides around London visiting clients on her red 500cc Moto Morini dressed in

matching red leathers. "It's bright, bold and very. very noisy. I love it," she enthuses. "I use to ride big Japanese bikes. I had a Yamaha 650 and more recently a Yamaha 550, but that was stolen with all my hairdressing equipment on board. That's when I got the Morini and it's fabulous." She says the Italian bike is ideal for getting quickly to and from appointments and she can pack in

several bookings a day. Ms Roth loves her work and her bike so much that she's hoping to encourage several biking hairdressers to get together and embark on a "Courier Cuts World Tour". There seem to be quite a few hairdressers around that love biking and most bikers like

riding and haircutting their way around the world would

be fun." It's an idea that appeals to Sellers: Travelling appeals a lot to bikers, the freedom to ride wherever they please. I go to Europe a lot on my motorbike, but to ride around the world would be great."

Clarke also seems to agree: "I have been thinking about taking the Harley on to the

The only drawback is that although Ms Roth adores her Morini, she's certain it won't make it around the world: "I love it and will always keep it, but I think I'm going to need a touring bike for long journeys. Perhaps a BMW."

That is certain is that none of these motorbiking motorbiking hairdressers will ever take up car driving fulltime again, so next time you hear someone make a glib remark about "hairdresser's cars" you can put them right. There's just one problem who's brave enough to tell a Harley fan like Arnold Schwarzenegger that he rides a hairdresser's bike?

## he also relies on his bike for everyday communing: "I love the speed of the bike and I've recently bought new leathers crowd-pullers; parking them The Rev revs up for a charitable Christian Triumph

### Vaughan Freeman on a biking vicar's plan for a whip-round — around Britain

otorcycling reverend Geofotorcycling reverent Georgic frey Daintree has fulfilled a lifetime dream by finally aboard a gleaming 750cc.
Triumph Bonneville, and all for a

Mr Daintree was just a schoolboy when his passion for the legendary Triumph name was first fired. He has owned a string of two-wheel machinery, but never a Triumph. The nearest he got, after a succes-

sion of Japanese motorcycles, was: another British-designed bike, a Royal Enfield, but the pressures of family. life, and the limited means at his disposal as a vicar, meant that the Enfield had to go.

Mr Daintree is vicar in the East quaint it is only a matter of time before it becomes the set for a televised costume drama. He is also Commissary for the Diocese of Cyangugu, in the south-west of Cyangugu, in the south-west of Rwanda, a world away from settled, Bonneville was built. comfortable Framfield.

He set himself the task of raising 100,000 for the Rwandan diocese to equip a vocational school for orphans and widows in Cyangugu, and to equip a farm project, a vereinary dispensary and to help the Diocese there to become self-financing. And he decided that whatever he did to raise funds, it had to be fun if it was to generate the sort of enthusiasm needed to come up with such a huge

The answer, he and his supporters decided, was a week-long, 1,300 mile round-Britain sponsored motorcycle trip that will take in 26 English Cathedrals, from Canterbury to Newcastle, Liverpool to Bristol,

Yeovil to St. Paul's.
The team will be half-a-dozen



Thousand-mile service: the Reverend Geoffrey Daintree and bike

backing of the Archbishop of Canter-bury, the Bishops of Chichester and local businessman. Peterborough, as well as support

when he takes about the 1980 Bonne- said to myself it which he has been able to would own one.

finance with the sponsorship of a

To own a Bonneville was a ink up with members of the Fellowship of Christian Motorcyclists at Ship of Christian Motorcyclists at Coventry cathedral, near where the Bonneville was built.

Dreams aside, why a 17-year-old Bonneville for such a trip rather than, with all due respect, a more reliable if less charismatic Japanese machine? "I thought that having a classic British bike would be a focus for the

fund-raising," he says.
"Whenever I am riding it and park, three or four people always wander over to have a look, and gather round. It is a very attractive bike. In 1980 the Bonneville was voted thachine of the year - and mine is a 1980 bike. It is wonderful. People say it drips oil and that it rattles around. and I suppose it does a bit.

Having finally got his hands on his dream machine, he has no intention of letting it go. Although acquired primarily for the charity ride, he will pay for it by selling examples of his carpentry, which he turns out in the barn which doubles as his workshop and home to the Bonneville.

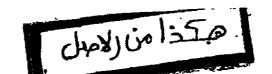
Anyone who would like to help can contact Mr Daintree on 01825 890365, and at: The Vicarage, Framfield, Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 5NH.

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New launch: Kevin Eason on the radical hatchback coupé designed in a flash to outrun the opposition

## Powerful Puma — Ford's 135-day wonder

ord really has torn up the rule book; out goes bland Euro-styling and in comes yet another radical shape promises to shake up the ompetition at the cheapest end of he market.

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The company this week unveiled he Puma, a coupe based on the hassis and running gear of a Fiesta. However, the coupé gets a new 1.7-litre Zetec SE power plant with 123 brake horse power, which means this little hatchback should have enough puff to outrun the competition from Vauxhall and

What is heartening though is that Ford has not been diverted from its mission to produce some radical new shapes to stick on our high streets. Like the Ka, which the company used to redefine the styling of superminis, the Puma will at least catch the eye, from its big bug-eyed headlamps right to the swept-up tail.

Vauxhall created the new categor ry of mini-coupé with its Tigra, while Renault muscled into the market with a two-door version of the Megane. Ford has traditionally answered with a derivative Fiesta in XR2 or 1.4Si form, but now comes a model specifically targeted at buyers who want a sporty twodoor without breaking the bank. . Prices will be announced closer to

launch later in the year, but should be pitched at around £15,000 to remain within a pound coin's throw of the Tigra and Megane.

For the money, the car will be quite highly specified and feature FORD PUMA

Engine: 1.7-litre, 16-valve Zene: SE delivering 123bhp at 6,300rpm through five-speed transmission to front wheels.

Performance: 0 to 60mph in &B seconds, top speed 126mph.

Fact consumption: 38.2mpg on European average cycle. Equipment: Anti-lock brakes, power steering, four diagonal seat belts, large control stereo.

Price: around £15,000.



Puma dash is clean with white dials, the stereo easy to use

some of the interior ones learned from the Ka experience, so the dash is clean with white dials, the stereo a simple-to-use big-button format model, the seats sculpted and the boot big, though difficult to enter because the lip sits high over the fat rear bumper and is squashed between the three-light rear lamp

Ford's engineers are said to have worked on the driving experience to make it more pleasurable than the current line-up, planting big 15-inch wheels onto low-profile tyres at the end of a wider track than the Fiesta, stiffering up the chassis and sus-pension and making the steering more responsive. Anti-lock brakes

The 1.7-litre Zetec engine is new to the Puma and will deliver peak torque from as low as 1,500rpm, managed through a close-ratio gearshift — topped off with a nifty aluminium knob - which promises that the Puma will rev freely and offer a sporty drive.

The bigger engine plus extra-body weight means that the Puma is six inches longer and weighs in around 50 kilos heavier than the Fiesta. That should not affect the fuel consumption too drastically though, and Ford forecasts that the Puma will need to drink a gallon of unleaded every 38 miles or so on

ot that potential customers for this car will be too concerned about petrol bills, for Ford will be looking for those desirable Dinkies (Double Income No Kids) couples who are now the Holy Grail of the

On looks alone, Ford stands a good chance of attracting enough buyers to get rid of the 30,000 to 40,000 it is planning to make at its Fiesta plant at Cologne in Germany, and the Puma gives the company yet another model to add to its ever expanding line-up.

Significantly, Puma is the first Ford designed entirely by computer and in just 135 days, which means the company will be able to develop even more niche models from existing chassis at low cost and

remarkably quickly.
Fords now start with the Ka and go all the way to the big, bulky and American-made Explorer 4x4. With a mini people-mover scheduled for production at Halewood on Merseyside, Ford is clearly aiming to plug every niche gap in the market in its quest for profitability.



Ford based the Puma on Fiesta chassis, but created a novel look for the Zetec-engined coupé



Sara Copeland, our launch winner, proved the value of her employer's training policy

### How Sara's company-car driving skills beat the Road Safety Minister

illustration of the virtues of driver training. Sara Copeland is head of human resources for Habitat and, like all other employees the firm provides with a company car, she went on a one-day driving course.

So when we invited her to

help launch our annual search for The Times/Lease Plan Company Car Driver of the Year, we were expecting a demonstration of skill and control. Sara provided just that: despite a degree of nexvousness at forsaking her Nissan Primera Srl which will be used by this year's entrants, she gave a demonstration of smooth, calm driving to beat three men around a course of cones which included two tricky three-point turns and a slalom. The catch? On the Nissan's bonnet was a large plastic saucer with a light-weight ball inside and the trick was to get round the course without spilling the ball.

Sara got round the course without hesitation in just two minutes and four seconds. Now is the chance for you or

Alan Copps almost tackles the tricky course at the launch of this year's Times/Lease Plan competition

skill. More and more women are joining the ranks of company car drivers and we hope many of them to take part in this year's competition.

There is a month in which companies great or small can enter for the regional heats by filling in the form below. All you need is three willing drivers, aged over 24 who have as part of their remuneration. Each team entry has to be endorsed by a company director or fleet manager. The finals, at the Silverstone

Driving Centre, are a rare

chance to experience the excite-

ment of driving under expert supervision at the home of the

British Grand Prix. The indi-

vidual winner will win a trip

for two to the Portuguese

Grand Prix and the winning

team will be offered driver

the use of a Nissan vehicle for

Number of employees: .....

John Bowis: came third

Company

1997

Car Driver

Our test course at Ham House in Southwest London was designed by Chris Howell, managing director of Drive Tech, one of Britain's leading driver-training com-panies, which oversees the training for 12 employees and heats of our competition and

company car drivers. First to try the course,

appalling weather, was John. Bowis, the Minister for Road Safety, who had come to demonstrate the Government's backing for the competition, which is now in its fourth year. The contest aims to heighten awareness of the need for skill and care among those who may cover many during a year's work. More and more large firms

are beginning to invest in training to help crase that reputation for devil-may-care driving which dogs the company car motorist. Mr Bowis others concerned with road safety are well aware that even a few hours' instruction in anticipating the hazards of the road can dramatically reduce insurance premiums and the risk of expensive repairs or, worse, injuries and absence from work. With the disadvantage of

being first - and although he is used to an automatic - Mr Bowis took the Nissan around the course with great skill recording a time of two minutes and ten seconds. Vahid Daemi, managing director of Lease Plan. Europe's leading vehicle management company, went round in two minutes 17 seconds and was commended by Chris Howell for his steady style. Then Sara

lthough Chris was A keeping the times close to his chest, your corrkeeping the times close espondent was impressed by the speed and smoothness of all three, and realised he'd been set a hard task. The car went smoothly, the ball went round and round in the saucer and the last cone of the slalom went flying, incurring a fivesecond penalty.

I did manage to complete the fastest round, in exactly two minutes, but that penalty was enough to ensure that Sara proved her point.

It's a competition about salety, not speed, but even so seconds count. Fill in the form and give it a try . . .

### Four-wheel winning driver

drive in a Land Rover at the Midland Auto Trader Four-Wheel-Drive Day on March I is Mrs Janet Griffith of Shrewsbury, Shropshire. She correctly answered our question; the first Land Rover was unveiled in 1948. She wins the use of a Land Rover provided

by Marshalls of Peterborough and accommodation for two over the weekend at the Haycock Hotel, Wansford, Peterborough from which the day-long event, one of the best of its kind, starts next Saturday. If you were not lucky enough to win and have adjects to a suitable four-wheel-drive vehicle there is still time to enter by telephoning Cranium Communications on 01780 766966. Entries close on Tuesday.

### Car cover up

PAY-OUTS ON motor insurance claims last year were higher than expected and could lead to premium rises of between 5 and 10 per cent this year, according to insurers Touchline. In 1995 premiums fell by up to 20 per cent as direct insurers brought fierce competition to the market, but Touchline says they must now go up to meet the increased cost of claims.

### Rather no Moss

STIRLING MOSS has asked us to point out that he will not be taking part in July's race recreation at the historic Rheims circuit in France, as we reported on January II. However, the organisers are still seeking entries and anyone interested should contact Trisha Pilkington on 01803 722357.

### Fittipaldi festival

■ EMERSON FITTIPALDI, Brazil's double world champion, is to drive a Penske Indycar as part of a large American presence at this year's Goodwood Festival of Speed in June. More information: 01243 787766.



## **Entry Form**

THE TIMES Lease Plan 🖸 Company Car Driver 1997

### About your company

NB: Entrant should be director/ senior manager responsible for the company's cer fleet

 Nominated drivers Points on O ENSINE iob title Summe

### •Competition rules

THE TIMES

Laose Plan 🖸

Company

1997

Car Driver

The closing date for entries is March 28 1997. Drivers must be 24 years of age or over to enter. Only corporate entries will be accepted. Drivers must be nominated by the director or senior manager responsible for the company car fleet. Drivers must be nominated in teems of three. The entrant may also nominate himself/herself by the director or senior manager responsible for the company car or vehicle as part of the remuneration package. Qualification for as part of the teem, Comparises can only enter one teem. Competitions must drive a company car or vehicle as part of the remuneration package. Qualification for the teem/company award will be dependent upon a written test to be competed by the entrant at that ream's regional heat. Employees of Lease Plan, DriveTech, the team/company award will be dependent upon a written test to enter. In the spirit of the competition, competitions who reached the final in two previous (consecutive years, specially organisations such as driver training companies, police, the armed forces and the late are not permitted to enter. A place in the regional heats will be confirmed in writing at least ten days prior to the heat. In the event of over-subscription, qualification to the regional heats will be industrially as a least ten days prior to the heat. In the event of over-subscription, qualification to the heat. Feedback on each driver's performance random driver telephone questionnaire. If the team does not qualify the entrant will be informed in writing prior to the heat. Feedback on each driver's performance random driver telephone question. The reserve driver will be called upon at the regional heat should one of the first three drivers be unable to compete in their place. The prior event of a finalist not being able to compete in the final, the next highest socing diver from the regional heats will be influed to compete in their place. The prior to the heat for three markets are not even of a finalist not being able to compete in the final, the next highest storing of the

### Which venue?

... Number of company cars: .....

Please select your 1st and 2nd choice location/date of regional heat (indicate 1 or 2 in box): Friday, 25 April Elstree, Herts

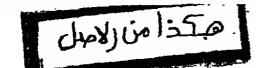
Friday, 9 May Macclesfield, Cheshire Friday, 16 May Bracknell, Berks

Friday, 30 May Nottingham Friday, 6 June Gatwick, Surrey

Friday, 13 June Coventry

You must ensure that entrant and nominated drivers are able for both first and second choice dates and for the final at Silverstone on Friday, 4 July 1997. Initial qualification may be by telephone questionnaire. Entrants and drivers will be contacted on an individual basis.

Once you have completed this form, fax it back to Lease Plan on 01753 620676 orpost to Marketing Dept, Lease Plan, Thames Side, Windsor, Berkshire SIA 1TY. For further information call Lease Plan on 01753 797284



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01666 823420 **VOGUE SE** 

Oct 93 (L), leather, Air suspension, Air Con, auto, gruise, sti stactric, FRRSH. £18,250.

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**VOGUE** SE K reg, FSH.

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Bergundy, leather, air con,

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Vestminson gray. SALOOO mis, PSH.

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230CE Coupe 2 door, Ante, ] rej.
Mat Geey/ Pull ithr int, CD,
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Parts & labour with isc. Sopenderson by the Coupend of the CT,
259-30, 01334
243843 or 0973 198143 I 100CE 24v Sapd Anto BlackCan libr air sportine susp lown 59k FMRSH immac £22995 Per formance Cars 01202 245100 220CE 1993E, Armandine Radi cream hide, AlfG body leit and alloys, lowered steep, 5 spd auto, ESE, EW, alaym & Immed, 99,000 mls, FMGSEI. Excellent condition E19,500. Star Gamps 01484 842138 / 842873.

5008L 85C Signal Red/municom insther ursies hearted seem FSE outstanding our EL690C Contact Nigel Fotten, Evens Balsaine jeguar 01782 20227 / after bours 0421 381110 00 SH, 93K, 9liver / Black hide, 8 holes, CD player, electric everything, FSH. Superior 126,495, 0181 504 9511 or 0955 285476, Bobert Cell, 1 BOO St. 1993 eliver blue and access hids, only 23,000 h. See Instanced into - Indy overlar, FMERI E52,500. Star Compt 01484 942128 / 942873 E280 Saloon, 95M, Auto, Metallic black, 8 hole alloys, grey cloth, twin sir bage, air con, ASS, 22L, PKH 123,950, 0860 608050.

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PUCKSHANK - A

USED CAR BRIEF

Uninessi: Sportrak.

The Sportrak was launched in 1989 as the fun-lowing cousin to Daihatsu's workhorse Fourtrak, and to compete with budget-priced off-roaders from Lada and "lessure" off-roaders fike the Suzuki Vitare. The 1.5-litre, 16valve engine got a catalyst a year after launch. A zippy car given its size, with a top speed of around 90mph. Available in two-door and three-door estate, with soft top and removeable hard top

## CARMART: YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S NEW, AND WHAT'S USED, ON THE FORECOURTS

### All the power you'll never need

1++ to SPEND more than £4.000 on something you are unlikely ever to know how to use, let alone want to use is unlikely to endear you to your bank manager, writes Vaughan Freeman.

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Associated to a

Yet Nissan quite cheerfully concedes that the vast majority of motorists who will stump up more than £17,000 for their 136mph Primera 2litre GT, are only ever likely to tap, at most, 75 per cent of their car's handling, driving

and high-performance ability. Which means that for most of the time, most Primera GT drivers will be spending their time driving comfortably within three-quarters of the car's capabilites and coming in nowhere near the performance limits that earn the car its GT badging and represent about £4,380 worth of elusive

excellence. That might not make financial sense but is probably just as well for everybody else on VOC the road, given that the GT will reach almost twice the. maximum UK motorway legal speed and will go from 0-60mph in well under nine seconds. The GT also boasts

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#### ROAD TEST

extraordinary roadholding. which means that it can go through corners fast, fast, fast, thanks to lateral cornering grip more usually found on the 170mph Skyline GT-R.

Nissan development engineers say that a driver of average ability will be quite safe and comfortable, and have all the excitement likely to be desired in the car, without surging adrenalin, sweaty palms, or representing a worry to other drivers.

This is Nissan's sporting flagship, it goes on sale in May, and the company forecasts it will sell 1,500 of them annually - three times as many as its predecessor. Much of that increased in-

terest will derive from the GT's direct link to the brace of Primeras that will participate in this year's British Touring Car Championship, which gets under way next month. Just as the GT's promotion will benefit from Nissan stressing its links to the televised BTCC races, so the GT itself has benefitted from a

development programme that led to the 300bhp BTCC version of the car.

Nissan development driver Dirk Schoysman was one of those who spent hours testing and tuning the GT during 4,000 miles and 300 laps of high-speed motoring around the famous Nurburgring rac-

ing circuit.
The GT-buyers, says Schoysman, far from spending money on a car they cannot fully use, will own a car that provides huge margins of safety.

This has been done by adapting and refining the

hearn rear suspension and multi-link front suspension used throughout the Primera range, with slightly wider front and rear tracks and a stiller body.

Does it work? Certainly. driving the GT on the Enna Pergusa circuit in Sicily, this driver's nerve gave up on fast corners long before the car wanted to. Flat out it was very, very stable, and even in the wet the anti-lock braking system afforded ample stopping power and, as importantly, the ability to brake and steer without the wheels locking. To see what the car's other

VAUXHALL'S VECTRA

based at Luton, Bedfordshire,

is determined to maintain a

lead in the safety stakes over

its key rivals and this month

makes side airbags the latest

"must have" gadget.
The 12-litre bag is fitted into

the side of each front seat and

milliseconds of a collision.

Side impacts are among the

most dangerous, causing

about 30 per cent of all deaths

220E

'93-K, Bine/Black met.

ather, alloys, FSH.

01628 32395

**SL320** 

White, May 94, as new air conditioning, beign leather, stereo cassene,

seamer, stereo cassene, sear seais, 4,800 miles, owner, £48,000.

Tel. 01704 28727 eves

SLK.

Feb 1997.

£43,000.

Box No 3416

**SL350** 

28,500 miles, 1973. superb. £16,500 ono.

Details: 0114 2621610.

E320

Coupe Anio Jan 94 - 33k.

Black/grey litte, high spec

£33,869 ooo

0468 790696.

Süver / Quantz lent. Air conditioniss.

25 per cent was like. Nissan team BTCC driver David Leslie took the wheel, and I took the passenger sext for a few laps. What did he think? Leslie says: "This car now has wishbone suspension on the front, as is the case with Formula One cars. It is nicely balanced so that if you dip the kerbing

> and it is very forgiving."
>
> In expert hands, the
> Primera GT is an impressive production car, fast, sure, but at its best in corners. Even at improbable speeds going left or right, the GT holds on long

on the corner, the car series

down again straight away.

after an anxious journalist might have expected it to have swapped forward progress for slide or spin. The sears, with lateral cush-

PRIMERA GT

Engine: Two-litre, lo-valve, four-cylinder petrol producing

150bhp at 6,100rpm, driving from wheels through five-speed

Economy: 25.9mpg in lown.

44 Impg extra urban, 34.0mpg

Equipment: Air conditioning. anti-lock braking, six-spoke alloy

wheels, electrically adjustable

leather side-bolsters for lateral

support, leather steering wheel.

and heated mirrors, twin

foelamps, front power windows, revised seats with

Price: £17.500.

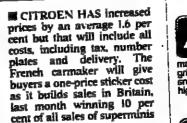
Performance: Top speed 136mph, 0 to 62mph in 8.8 seconds.

combined fuel cycles.

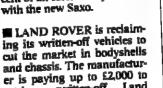
manual gearbox.

ions to bolster the thighs and keep occupants in place through the corners, work very well, and with air conditioning as standard, a sprinkle of leather, alloy wheels, sixspeaker stereo system, alarm and immobiliser, comfort as well as performance is taken care of.

The ideal car it would seem, for the average company driver who harbours aboveaverage motoring ambitions.



ing its written-off vehicles to cut the market in bodyshells and chassis. The manufacturer is paying up to £2,000 to retrieve written-off Land Rovers to ensure they are not sold to unsuspecting buyers.





REPLACEMENT PARTS: (prices include VAT) Clutch assembly £185; full exhaust £285; front damper £100; rear damper £70; front brakepads £85; alternator £145; starter motor £75;

The of-road ablaties of the Sportak are recognised, and a cheaper than the tancer, bigger, heavier four-wheel-drive cars now on sale. A tough chasses and strong suspension means the

Strong suspension means the Sportrak can take a lot punishment and should last well. Power steering as standard.

Thu target was updated an 1991 with the arrived of the STI soft-top and the two estates, the ELI and ELX, which spot owners with electric windows and surroof over front seat occupants. Special edition SE and LE come with upnated trim. From 1994 the EXI cars have newer suspension and restyled front.

PRICES:
Expect to pay
13,875 for a 1989
Sportrak 1.6 DX twodoor soft top; £5,500
for a 1991 H-reg 1.6-life EL twodoor hard top; £5,700 for a 1991
J-reg 1.6 EL times-door; £7,825 for
a 1994 L-reg 1.6 EX times-door;
£5,500 for a 1992 J-reg 1.6 ELX
times-door, and £11,000 for a 1996
N-reg 1.8 ELXI times-door estate.

BAD NEWS

ride which can make long-distance motorway trips hard work. The nature of such cars meens that the sportrak is heavy, and far less nimble than saloon cars, and

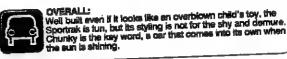
especially any problems with the steering and suspension that might have been caused by abuse off road, and for scratches to paintwork. Check low-ratio transfer box and library the specially and the steering that the special has the special to the steering that the special has the special to the steering that the special has the special to the steering that the special to the steering that the special to the

MSURANCE

repairs are more costly.

Off-road capability musics that on term

Cars that have lived a hard life will have suffered damage underweith. Check



C200

Begance, Pearl blue, 94M,

manual, FMBSH, mushroo

leather, alloys, alarm/immol immaculate, 9,500 miles,

£19,000.

Tel. 01789 414808

S320

94L, P/blue, 29K mls.

94H, Nulschim Green/ Creen ich F-985H. 26,000 eds. 1 cweer. Oldord elern syssem. Kemetod rad/cass CD player. Azzraciwe number plate sad.

0831 708388.

F250D

Elegance.

Auto, CC., 95M. Azurte, AC., Vocato, Disensor, HLW, MBCD

H/Seals, r/sensor, HLW, Meso R/System, MS alasm, 1 Own, 13K, PMBSH, mini.

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Tel:01525 381157.

C180

Auto classic, Red.

98N, elec, s/r, r/cam F3M, 29K

£18,000ono.

To

01442 890412.

0171 2545436 (mx



Primera 2-litre GT: 136mph worth of enhanced handling and performance

#### BUILT LIKE a tank. FORECOURT cosy, with a lot of room for

people and load, the VW Passat is still unfairly regarded, reports CAP Black Book.

Despite its excellent carrying capacity, its robustness, and the sort of build quality we have come to expect from VW, the Passat (1988 to 1996) nevertheless lacks image, writes Vaughan Freeman.

The estate, thanks to its practicality and carrying ability, is worth more than the saloons, and high-mileage cars are a shrewd buy since the Passat, if looked after, serviced regularly, and supported by a full VW history, barely shrugs as it motors past 150,000 miles.

The GL is most sought after and diesels can also make a good buy, although the 1.9-litre engine is preferred. Best buy is the 1994 M-reg 2-litre GL estate with around 60,000 to 70,000 miles on the odometer, for which you can expect to pay in the region of £8,000.

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230 TE

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AUTO

93K, grey, FMBSH, ESR, air coa, alloys, 2 owners, 102k.

£14.500

0121 438 6994.

, Aimendine red tost, 71 , FSH, E. windows/rook, s. Outstanding condition

'C' 2.5 Commonth Sher 75k FSH \_\_\_\_\_

It is best to avoid the L spec, as this is pretty Spartan in terms of comfort, while the GT 16-valve can be tricky to sell. Over-priced diesel cars are also worth shunning. Watch for exhaust smoke, and worn shock

■ FIAT'S TIPO (1989-1996) is favoured for its lively engines and a galvanized body which counters suspicions about Italian cars' rustiness. It is roomier than an Escort. The Tipo is also usually quite cheap. Against all of that, the gearchange can be poor, and there is still doubt about the

durability of the interior trim. Even so. Tipos are popular with the trade, although colour, mileage and condition can have a dramatic impact on value. Best buy is a 1991 J-reg. 1.4 litre S five-door with average miles, for which you can expect to pay £2,500. Avoid GTs that have worked hard and also overpriced diesels.

SLK

KOMPS

01439 748286.

Eleganos

220,800.

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230CE

980 (H) net black/grby close 26K, 1 retired owner shock res. EST, EW, award, FMBSH. Pristing cond.

£16,996 ono.

0171 3714476

SL320

96 N. Azurito met., grey extrer, citmete control, Miris, RCS, 3,000 miles.

690,995 OVIIO.

01473 723977

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ŞLK

Sheer / Binck tenther, 2.3 cmpressor, Auto, CD, Air co & extrac. Delivery mileage.

255,000

0171 2295050 (0)

0171 2438527 (H)

Auto, 8514. Assurbe Stue, shootin firt, elec seets, frein begs, cetras, FSH, 15K.

E280

Sept 94M Auto, silver/

navy blue lithr, air con,

alerm/immob, H/L,

W/W, FSH, 46k, 1

owner, £21,900 ano.

01491 874256.

230TE

J reg, air cond, Pearl Blue, 55k, EW, ESR, FSH, £15,950.

9171 2213508/

250E

Diesel new model. 1996. Sunroof, alloys, black, lik mis, FSH.

£23,950

01381751389.

E320

ELEGANCE

Nov 96, 3,500 cnls, many

£42\_995

Teb (b) 81226 792077/

(w) 747945.

280 SL

1995. Silver met, ichr is i cop, rear seat, CD, TV video. 11k mis.

£48k No offers

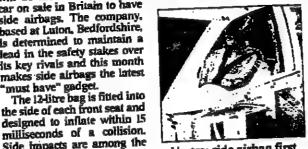
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300

Diesel estate, Anto, Ang 1994, 49K mis, PSH, resr

Offers #23,500.

01725 518464

0973 180051.

230SLK

Feb'97, silver,

red/black leather,

extras, delivery miles, £42,950.

Nick 0171 537 0449(b)

or 0171 573 1181(w)

320 CE

CAB

641,500

01773 829997 9-6.

300 D

ELEGANCE

Auto

June 96, silver, black cloth, air, alarm, CD, 6k

0171 928 17/B.

ng seats, very good

C200 Sport Auto, M reg. met blue/ lthr, excel cond, FSH, 30,000 miles, £19,750. 0181 643 7940

**500SL** SL500 ports conv. 1990. Silver, very high spec., mint cond, below av. miles, FMBSHL £36,950 ovno.

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N registration, 5,000 miles

and hard tops, £56,500.

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SL500

Torraine motors

PMBSK, 21k.

261,995.

01795 668515.

ine green, beig

**220CE** 

beigs cloth, lowered suspension, o's/r, CD, air on, 8 hole alloys, F/MB/SI

rm, spolicie i owner ( private sale, £22,000.

0171 202 2905 (day) 01494 681023(eves)

32,000 miles, Borni

Auto, E reg. 1987, 58,000 miles, Petro Soft cream lthr. Beautiful car olue, hard & soft top. FMBSH, pristine £34,000. W/end 01706 47595.

SL320
95L Imperial Red, with AMG body for and wheels, ar conditioning, PSH, rear seets, PHS, many occurs. 30,000 mls. Private and £52,000ano Day 01706 876791.

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Elegance in anthracite

grey, 76,000 miles.

FSH, 1 owner,

immaculate condition.

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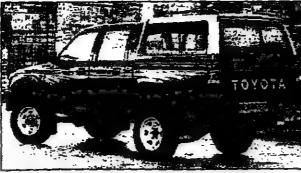
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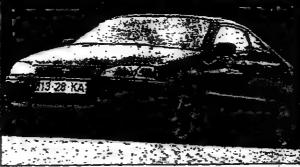
### Alan Copps explores Toyota's huge range of vehicles and the niche newcomers it introduces this month

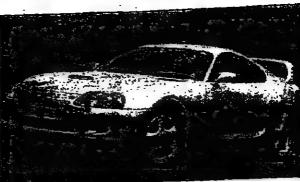


Trendiest of the small four-wheel drives: RAV4 MAX



The Hilux 4WD: now Britain's most popular pick-up





Rip-roaring Supra: a seriously under-rated supercar



Carina: reliable transport that is made in Britain



Camry Sport Saloon: performance car for executives



Smallest car in the Toyota range: tiny Starlet Sportif



Corolla: efficient all-round model for the family



New Landcruiser Amazon: ultra-luxurious off-roader



Small and sporty: the cute Toyota MR2 GT





Celica GT Four, the coupe that comes with space

The most remarkable thing about Toyota in Britain is the sheet range of vehicles it offers. The launch of three new models this month means the company now has 13 different types of vehicle in its price list. ranging from the tiny Starlet mini to the roaring Supra, one of the most under-rated

supercars. In between it boasts Britain's most popular pick-up, the Hilux, a large slice of reliable family transport and considered the best of the new

MARQUE OF THE MONTH ΤΟΥΟΊΑ

breed of small four-wheel drives. And that is without including the company's own

The new models enable the cruiser Amazon is an ultra-

luxurious version of the big four-wheel-drive which has sold more than three million worldwide since the 1950s; the Camry Sport is aimed at the executive driver who wants a bit of added performance and presence on the road, and the Picnic, which Toyota says is the pioneer of a new class, the

amily fun vehicle". The Amazon comes with full-time four-wheel-drive, a choice of petrol and diesel engines, and the top versions feature a wealth of equipment occupants to listen to the CD

player while crossing a desert in leather-cushioned, air-conditioned honery. It will compete head-on with topspecification Range Rovers and Jeep's Grand Cherokee.

The Picnic is the first vehicle to be launched in competition for Renault's Megane Scenic, the scaled-down MPV voted Europe's Car of the Year in 1996. A number of other carmakers are planning to join the fray. The Camry gives Toyota yet another variation in one of the most hotly



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Transmission: Permanent four-wheel drive. Price: £36,020 - £42,855. ripment: power steering, ABS, air-conditioning. CAMRY SPORT

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Engine: 1250hp four-cylinder, 2.2-litre. 16-valve. Equipment: alloy-wheels, air-conditioning, ABS. Performance: 0-62mph 10.4 seconds, max 122mph Price: £23,210 (£24,170 auto).

Engine: 2-litre, five-speed manual, four-speed auto. Equipment: Child-proof locks, alarm.



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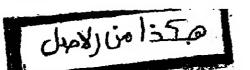
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# Biking's coming home, at long last

Roland Brown on the superb new Triumphs that put Britain on top



Naked T509 Speed Triple: less powerful, but great fun

f 1996 was the year that Football's Coming Home made patriotic hearts beat faster, then this year the song should perhaps be rewritten to celebrate another glorious return. Last month Triumph's new T595 Daytona was launched to huge critical acclaim, and came within a whisker of becoming the country's bestselling superbike.

Along with the Leicestershire firm's other new "sec-ond-generation" machine, the naked T509 Speed Triple, the Daytona represents a stepping-up of Triumph's assault on the superbike market. Both new models feature powful three-cylinder engines, sophis-ticated fuel-injection and stateof the art chassis design.

Yet just seven years ago the once-great British motorcycle industry seemed dead. Then Triumph, owned by multimillionaire builder John Bloor (who had bought the bankrupt company from the liquidator and kept only its name), revealed several impressive new three and four-cylinder bikes. The firm has since improved and enlarged the range, forged a reputation for reliable if unspectacular engineering, begun exporting worldwide and increased production to last year's total of

#### SPEED TRIPLE

Engine: Three-cylinder, 12-valve, 885cc producing 107bhp at Transmission:

Six-speed gearbox. Chain final-drive. Performance: Max speed 135mph, 0-60mph in 3.2 seconds

Price: E8299 (plus £350 on-the-road charge) Insurance group: 14 (with Norwich Union)

not done until now is build a true super-sports machine. The British firm's modular engineering format - where many components including the frame and much of the engine were shared between models to reduce costs prevented the degree of specialisation required to compete with roadburners such as Ducati's 916 and Honda's CBR900RR FireBlade.

Now, Triumph is big and confident enough to adopt a more aggressive approach. The T595 (Triumph's factory code name was retained for the production bike) was designed for ultimate high-per-

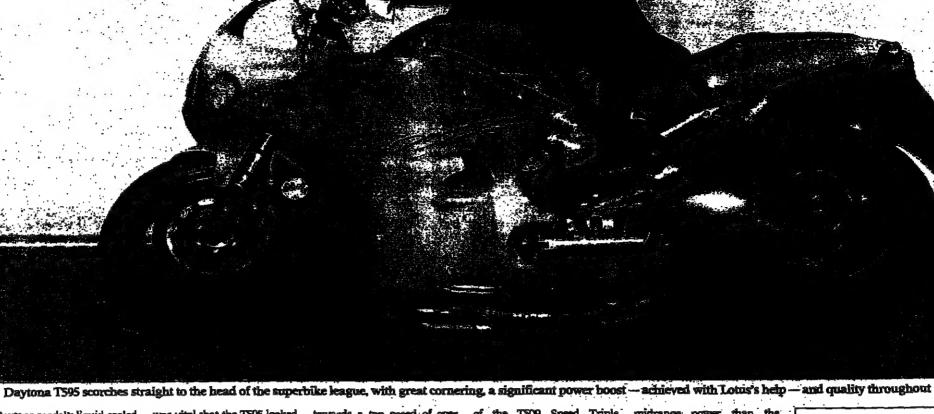


three-cylinder engine has been enlarged to 995cc and tuned with the help of Lotus Engineering, giving a peak output of 128bhp — slightly more than either the 916 or FireBlade. The chassis is all new, based

style than engineering.

And why not? Modern

superbikes are bought as much for a show as for go, so it



Daytona model's liquid-cooled

on a frame made from polished, oval-section aluminium tubes. High-quality features abound, from the multi-adjustable suspension (Japanesemade, as before) to the singlesided aluminium rear swingarm, which Triumph admits was used more on grounds of

was vital that the TS95 looked good. The British bike doesn't quite have the sensuous lines of the 916, but the all-yellow (or black, if you prefer) Daytona is a handsome machine. It seems nicely finished too, as you settle into the firm seat and reach forward to handlebars

cheat the wind. The Triumph puts too much weight on the wrists for slowspeed comfort, but this bike is for the open road. That big three-cylinder engine gives a distinctive feel, and perfor-mance is exhilarating. Just wind open the throttle and the T595 flies, surging smoothly at low revs, then kicking hard

that are positioned low to

towards a top speed of over 160mph. There is a slight flatspot at about 5,000 pm and the six-speed gearbox is occasionally imprecise, but overall, the engine is superb.

The T595 is equally impressive in corners, thanks to its light weight (198kg), rigid. frame and excellent suspension. The Triumph is slightly heavier and less easy to stee than the class-standard FireBlade, but hits back by being correspondingly more stable. Its brakes are immensely powerful; its broad Bridgestone tyres very sticky. The same is predictably true of the TS09 Speed Triple whose chassis, apart from the lack of a fairing and a painted instead of polished frame, is identical. With its twin head-lamps and tiny flyscreen (a £100 optional extra), the T509 has a raw, streetwise look that will not appeal to every rider. But for those who like its style,

the Speed Triple is great fun.
Its engine falls midway between the TS95 and Triumph's old three-cylinder unit, retaining the original 885cc capacity but gaining the new sportster's njection, exhaust system and some internal parts. Peak output is 107bhp, enough for a top speed of over 130mph, and the Triple also has more

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midrange power than the highly-tuned sports bike, mak-ing for effortless acceleration. The TSO9 Speed Triple is also £1,350 cheaper than the £9,649 Daytona. But it is the Daytona that has been making most of the headlines. No

British bike has generated such excitement since Norton's 750cc Commando ruled the roads in the late 1960s. Since then this country motorcycle fans have, in the words of last summer's song suffered "30 years of hurt" from Japanese humiliation But the pain is over. With the T595 Daytona, Britain again has a sports bike to match the very best in the world.

### DAYTONA

Engine: Three-cylinder, 12-valve, 955cc producing 128bhp at 10,200 rpm. Transmission: Six-speed gearbox. Chain final-drive. Performance Max speed 165mph, 0-60mph in 2.8 seconds Price: £9649 (plus £350 on-the-road charge) Insurance group: 15 (with Norwich Union)

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# Wooden racer goes under the hammer

Alan Copps on the racing car made out of wood that took Jackie Stewart to glory

hat is probably the last wooden car to win a serious motor race it was driven by three-times world champion Jackie Stewart to a number of early victories — is to be sold at auction today by the man who designed it.

Jem Marsh, founder of Marcos cars, says: "The only exams I passed at public school were English and woodwork, so it's not surprising my first cars were made of wood. It's a tremendously light and strong material.

You can repair it quickly, too, so long as it doesn't splinter. I once got a rear wheel off the track going round Clearways corner at Brands Hatch, I spun acrossthe wet grass, collecting all the concrete posts from a wire retaining fence, eventually knocking the back off the car. But it came off in one piece. I glued it on again in the paddock and went on to win another race."

The 1960 gullwing-doored Marcos sports racing coupé was one of the success stories of GT racing in its time. Its



Jem Marsh and the third

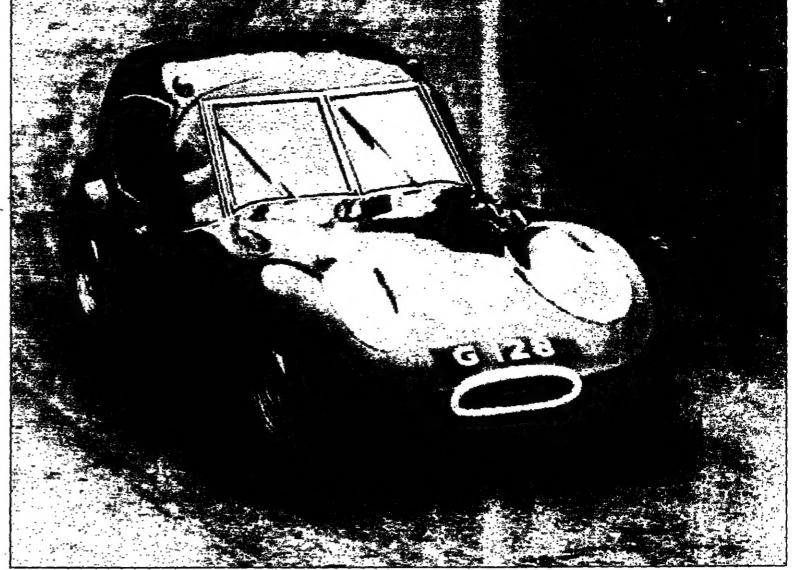
windscreen, cloaked an even more peculiar chassis, a tub made of marine plywood. But the unusual construction ensured extreme light weight. and with an early Cosworth engine the car was astonishingly successful. It dominated class until the brilliant

Colin Chapman sorted out a racing version of his glass-fibre Lotus Elite, a beautiful car that played swan to the Marcos's ugly duckling. The car to be sold tonight at

Brooks's auction at London's Olympia has an entraordinary history. "It's been part of my life," says Marsh. "It was the third car we made, chassis number 1003. I've had great fun racing it myself but my factory's so busy now I need the space. I'm hoping it might go to a museum.

The Marcos company, based in Westbury, Wilishire, and still run by Marsh and his sons, is one of Britain's most successful specialist sports car manufacturers with a full order book for its current Mantara and LM models.

The car to be sold is one of only six Mk I GTs to be built. It carries an estimate of £20,000 - £25,000. "I drove it to Scotland where it was paid for by Barry Filer, a director of Courtaulds, and then delivered to Jackie Stewart when no one had heard of him outside Scotland. He'd done a few races in an Austin Healey Sprite, but he won some of his first races in this car," says



Jackie Stewart won some of his first races in this car, made of marine plywood and stuck together with glue, with an early Cosworth engine

bodywork of the car is wood, mainly 12 mm marine ply. The bonnet is made of glassfibre. The construction was pioneering at a time when even Formula One cars were built around a space frame of steel tubing. Jackie

Stewart raced it throughout 1961 and 1962 and then moved on to higher things. It was bought by Jack Gates, who entered and won nine races. Then it disappeared.

But in 1976, Jem Marsh found the car lying neglected in a garage yard. I rebuilt it.

then I started racing it myself in historic events. I've won more than 100 times in the 1300cc class." Marsh won three Historic Sports Car Club 1978, 80 and 84.

But the last wooden Marcos was built in 1969. The com-

Brooks's sale starts at pany now faces a more modnoon at Olympia 2, London ern challenge: preparing a W6 10171-244 9494). three-car team for this year's Sotheby's sell a collection of 24-hour endurance race at Le Mans. "I'm still chairman of Formula One memorabilia at New Bond Marcos and we're now running the team from the factory. Street, London WI on Wednesday at 2pm (0171-108

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### Has the RAC changed sides?

Porgive me doctor. I always thought RAC meant Royal Automobile Club. Now I hear that they are taking up the cause of cyclist pedestrians. Can this be true?

A You're right. At a conference earlier this week to celebrate the organisation's centenary, the RAC decided that in future it should represent all road

Whatever new von Association? Whatever next? Will the AA be-Who's going to stick up for the poor old motorist against the New Age travellers, bureaucrats and environmentalists?

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A The RAC says that lots of its members walk and cycle as well as drive. And remember, the AA had its origins as a team of cyclists who warned pioneer drivers about speed traps on the London-Brighton road.

Well we all have to walk some-times, but I'd rather drive any day. Does that make me old-fashioned?

A It seems so. The RAC based its decision on a poll of members that showed them strongly in favour of pedestrianisation in town centres, better public transport and more space on the

That sounds familiar. I seem to remember reading something along those lines in Car 97.

A That's true. Our own poll last week showed that very large numbers of motorists are saying the same thing. It's the result of an overwhelming concern about pollution and congestion in our cities. But we do believe in giving the motorist a say, so soon we'll be printing a selection of ideas put forward by driving advocates in our traffic debate.

### Street-fashion creator Wayne Hemingway tells Andrew Pierce why he hates ostentatious road-users



Hemingway with rag-top Land Rover and limited-edition Nissan Figaro

### Clothes king loses rag at macho adverts

star turns at London Fashion Week which opens tomorrow. Hemingway is the creative force behind the street-west label, Red or Dead. He founded the company 15 years ago with his wife Gerardine, sell-

ing second-hand clothes in Camden market in North London. He is now creative director and chairman of the company and a self-made

How did you first learn to drive?

I was brought up in a pub and earned enough money to buy a car at 16, 1 drove it round and round the car park and took my test three days after my 17th birthday, I was convinced I had taught myself. I was wrong, I failed. I passed six weeks later, having had some real lessons.

What was your first car?

A Hillman Hunter. Followed rapidly by a bright orange Capri with bucket seats and a racing steering wheel. I crashed the Hillman on the way to school.

What car do you drive now and why?

When I am being a sensible

Land Rover. I also have a limited edition Nissan Figaro which I bought in Japan.

On you like driving?

Only if there is something good on the radio. Otherwise I find it tedious. There are far

What is your most hated car?

Ostentatious status symbols such as the Rolls-Royce. It is ugly and screams out boring old rich fart, Modern Porsches are the ultimate laughable status symbol.

What is your dream car?

One that can fly and is amphibious at the same time. What is your worst habit in

the our?

Not supporting my wife, Gerardine, when she is driving and screaming at the kids to behave. I just keep on

What infuriates you most about other drivers? I love all of them. I have road

reading a magazine.

What is the most unusual thing you have done in your

Jayne Hemingway, father, I drive a Toyota Previa. I changed a fuse on my own. one of Britain's most For fun I have a 1950s rag-top only last week. This was only last week. This was highly unusual.

> Have you ever had points on your licence?

When I was 17, doing 50mph on a 40mph urban motorway. All my mates were drunk and rowdy. The policeman was incredulous at my explanation that I had drunk four bottles of chocolate milk. He breathtested me. Then my mates gave him four empty bottles of chocolate milk. He nicked me for speeding instead.

What do you listen to in the

Radio 1: the evening show with Jo Wiley and Steve Lamacq. Football on Radio 5 Live.

you were Secretary of State for Transport, what is the first thing you would do?

A dramatic increase in car tax. and road tolls that encouraged everyone who can to use a public transport system that has been improved by the levies.

What is your favourite car advertisement?

The directors of the commercials seem to think that all car drivers lust after speed and regard the car as a penis extension. Unlike me.

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# Boringroad puts drivers to sleep

By Paul Marston, Transport Correspondent

A STRETCH of dual carriageway suspected of being so boring that it makes drivers fall asleep is to be investigated by the Government's Highways Agency.

The eastbound route of the A180 between the outskirts of Scunthorpe and Grimsby Docks has a sleep-related accident rate two-and-a-half times the national average.

Research carried out by Loughborough University for Humberside police suggested that drivers tended to relax because they were nearing the end of their journey, and then had difficulty in staying awake because the road was so unstimulating.

Prof Jim Horne, head of the university's sleep research team, said that the view along the 20-mile road was exceptionally tedious.

"It's pretty dull and boring, and often not very busy, so drivers don't even have the stimulation of other traffic to keep them going," he said. "It's also very flat, and a lot of

it has embankments running alongside. At night, it's not lit, so you can't see much.

Maybe it's just their cars.

The Daily Telegraph 11/2/97

